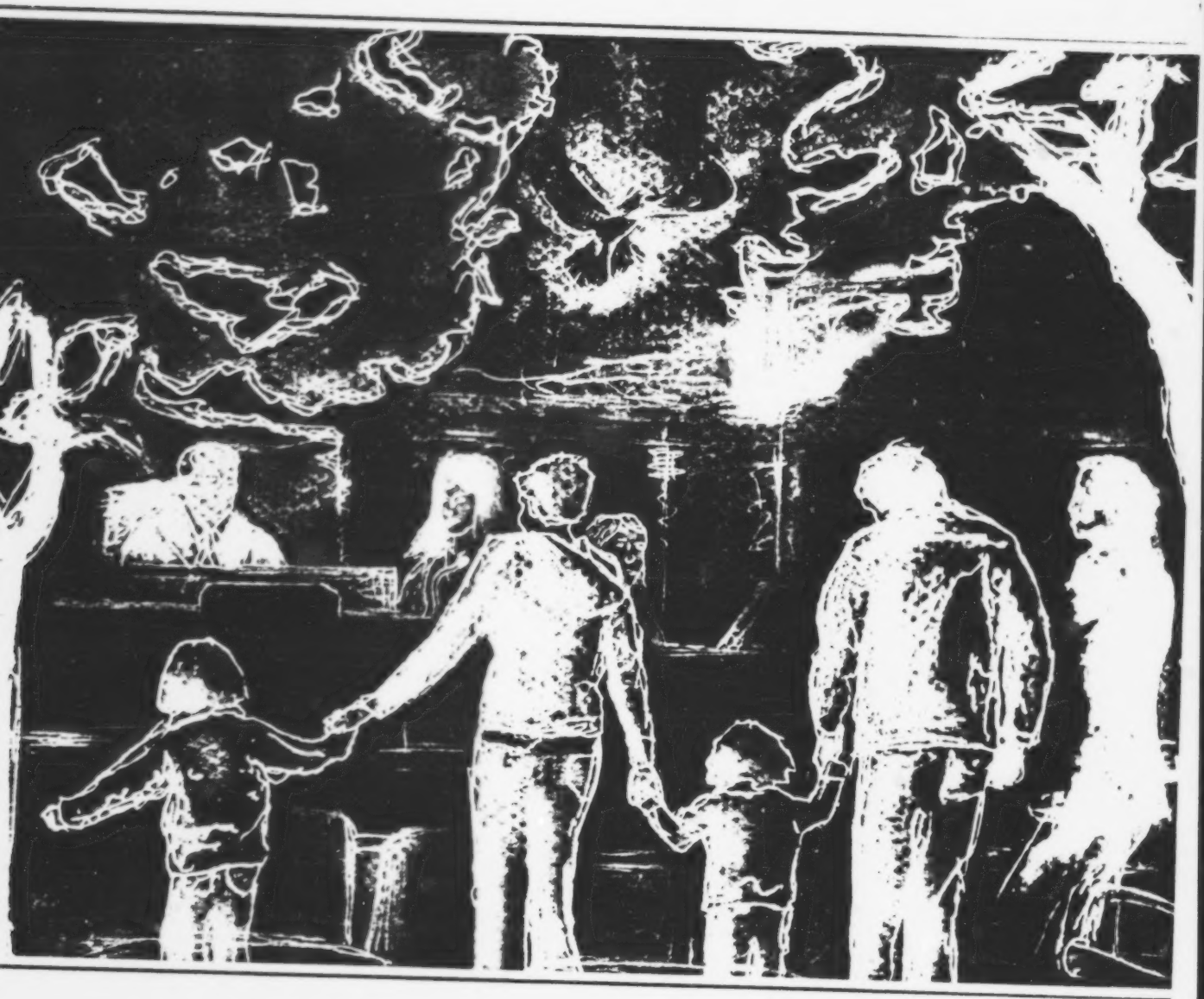
Alberta Justice Annual Report

2005-2006



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PREFACE

The Public Accounts of Alberta are prepared in accordance with the *Financial Administration Act* and the *Government Accountability Act*. The Public Accounts consist of the annual report of the Government of Alberta and the annual reports of each of the 24 ministries.

The annual report of the Government of Alberta released June 26, 2006 contains the Minister of Finance's accountability statement, the consolidated financial statements of the province and a comparison of the actual performance results to desired results set out in the government's business plan, including the *Measuring Up* report.

This annual report of the Ministry of Justice contains the minister's accountability statement, the audited financial statements of the ministry and a comparison of actual performance results to desired results set out in the ministry business plan. The ministry annual report also includes other financial information as required by the *Financial Administration Act* and *Government Accountability Act*, either as separate reports or as part of the financial statements, to the extent that the ministry has anything to report.

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MINISTER'S ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

The ministry's annual report for the year ended March 31, 2006, was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Government Accountability Act* and the government's accounting policies. All of the government's policy decisions as at August 30, 2006, with material economic or fiscal implications of which I am aware have been considered in the preparation of this report.

Ron Stevens, QC
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

VISION AND MISSION

Vision

A fair and safe society supported by a trusted justice system.

Mission

To protect the rights of all individuals in Alberta and advance the interests of society by fostering: safe communities; access to justice; respect for the law; understanding of and confidence in the justice system, and the legal foundation for social cohesion and economic prosperity.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Each year, Alberta Justice works to improve the justice system by developing strategies and drafting or amending laws that improve service delivery to Albertans and contribute to keeping communities safe. This year, increased attention was placed on supplying information about these services and programs in a manner that is easy to understand and not intimidating. Efforts are also under way to help Albertans understand the inner workings of the justice system. These efforts will ensure that Albertans who need access to justice can do so easily and with confidence.

Improving the system as it relates to children and families continued to be a main priority for the ministry. In October of 2005, the *Family Law Act* was proclaimed, allowing Albertans to access family law services and programs in one place through Family Justice Services. With the involvement of our partners in the community, we also put in place new programs to support families and help police respond more effectively in family violence cases.

The Maintenance Enforcement Program implemented new strategies to collect court-ordered support for families and we saw the exceptional results that additional resources, such as specialized Crown prosecutors, have in protecting Alberta children from online predators. Apart from child exploitation cases, specialized Crown prosecutors in the areas of organized crime and economic crime also had an impact in helping police investigations and ensuring that the key players committing these crimes were singled out and prosecuted.

These efforts also had a tremendous impact in our overall goal of keeping Alberta communities safe.

Videoconferencing eliminates the safety and security risks that are sometimes involved in prisoner transport from remand centres to the courthouse. This year we finalized plans to increase the use of videoconferencing equipment in court locations across the province. Videoconferencing will also help to streamline the docket court process, improve the efficiency of court operations and help to reduce court delays.

We also finished our preparations for the installation of perimeter security measures in courthouses throughout the province. Perimeter security is part of the ministry's three-year plan to improve courthouse security.

With so many services and programs available, it was important we inform Albertans about how the justice system works and how to find what they need. By helping to create new teaching resources, we ensured that schoolteachers and other community leaders have what they need to educate Albertans about the justice system. Through an enhanced Speaker's Centre, we worked to encourage legal professionals to speak to students and community groups about the justice system and what justice partners are doing to improve it.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Partners within the justice system recognize the benefits of working together. As part of our ongoing work with the Justice Policy Advisory Committee, three subcommittees were created to concentrate on the areas of public confidence in the justice system, access to justice and collaborative planning.

Albertans depend on their justice system to help make their homes and communities safer, better places to live. At Alberta Justice, our work over the past year was designed to live up to those expectations, and to improve the justice system whenever possible. In 2005-06 we expanded services, supplied more information to Albertans involved in the justice system, and helped ensure the system continued to operate efficiently. Alberta Justice continues its commitment to meeting these expectations as we move forward in the coming year.

Ron Stevens, QC
Minister of Justice and Attorney General

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR REPORTING

The executives of the individual entities within the ministry have the primary responsibility and accountability for the respective entities. Collectively, the executives ensure the ministry complies with all relevant legislation, regulations and policies.

Ministry business plans, annual reports, performance results and the supporting management information are integral to the government's fiscal and business plans, annual report, quarterly reports and other financial and performance reporting.

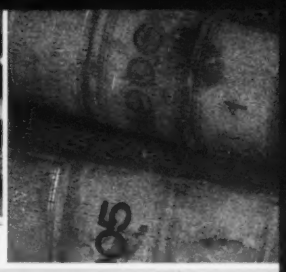
Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of the consolidated financial statements and performance results for the ministry rests with the Minister of Justice. Under the direction of the minister I oversee the preparation of the ministry's annual report, including consolidated financial statements and performance results. The consolidated financial statements and the performance results, of necessity, include amounts that are based on estimates and judgments. The consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with the government's stated accounting policies.

As Deputy Minister, in addition to program responsibilities, I establish and maintain the ministry's financial administration and reporting functions. The ministry maintains systems of financial management and internal control which give consideration to costs, benefits, and risks that are designed to:

- provide reasonable assurance that transactions are properly authorized, executed in accordance with prescribed legislation and regulations, and properly recorded so as to maintain accountability of public money,
- provide information to manage and report on performance,
- safeguard the assets and properties of the province under ministry administration,
- provide Executive Council, Treasury Board, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Justice any information needed to fulfill their responsibilities, and
- facilitate preparation of ministry business plans and annual reports required under the *Government Accountability Act*.

In fulfilling my responsibilities for the ministry, I have relied, as necessary, on the executive of the individual entities within the ministry.

Terrence J. Matchett, QC
Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General
Ministry of Justice
August 30, 2006



MINISTRY OVERVIEW

Minister of Justice and Attorney General

Alberta Review Board
Fatality Review Board
Judicial Council
Notaries Public Review Committee
Provincial Court Nominating Committee
Rules of Court Committee

Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General

Aboriginal Justice Initiatives Unit

Communications

Court Services
- Calgary Operations
- Edmonton Operations
- Regional Operations
- Program Support

Criminal Justice
- Appeals
- General Prosecutions
- Management and Leadership Services
- Special Prosecutions

Human Resource Services

Legal Services
- Civil Law
- Legislative Counsel
- Medical Examiner
- Public Trustee

Maintenance Enforcement
- Client Services
- Collections
- Program Support
- Policy and Legislation

Policy Secretariat

Strategic Services
- Strategic Management Services
- Financial Services
- Strategic Business Services
- Claims and Recoveries

BOARDS, AGENCIES AND COMMITTEES

Alberta Review Board

The Alberta Review Board makes or reviews dispositions concerning any accused person for whom a verdict of "not criminally responsible because of mental disorder" or "unfit to stand trial" is rendered, according to the provisions of the *Criminal Code of Canada*. The board also has the responsibility for determining whether a person should be subject to a detention order or conditional discharge or be granted an absolute discharge. The Lieutenant Governor in Council appoints the board's nine members.

The Honourable Judge Michael Stevens-Guille – Chair

Telephone: (780) 422-5994
Fax: (780) 427-1762

Fatality Review Board

The Fatality Review Board is responsible for reviewing certain deaths investigated by the Medical Examiner's Office and recommending to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General whether a public fatality inquiry should be held. The board is appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council and is composed of a lawyer, a physician and a layperson. The Chief Medical Examiner is also a member of the board, but cannot vote on any matter before it. Cases reviewed by the board generally include accidental deaths (where recommendations could be made at a public fatality inquiry for the prevention of similar deaths in the future); cases where the cause and manner of death remain undetermined after a complete investigation; and deaths of individuals who are in police custody, in prison, certified under the *Mental Health Act*, or under the guardianship of Child Welfare or in the director's custody.

Diane Colley-Urquhart – Chair

Telephone: (403) 297-8123
Fax: (403) 297-3429

The Judicial Council

The Judicial Council screens individuals to determine if they are qualified for appointment to the Provincial Court of Alberta. The council is granted jurisdiction to deal with complaints against masters, provincial court judges and justices of the peace. The chairman of the council is the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of Alberta. The Minister of Justice appoints two members of this council. The remaining four members are designated under the *Judicature Act*.

The Honourable A. Gail Vickery – Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of Alberta

Telephone: (780) 427-6330
Fax: (780) 427-2077

Notaries Public Review Committee

The Notaries Public Review Committee advises the Minister of Justice on appointments of lay notaries public. The committee consists of a member of the Law Society of Alberta, a member of the business community and a member of the ministry, who is the secretary. All are appointed by ministerial order under the *Government Organization Act*. The committee reviews applications for appointment and then provides recommendations to the Minister of Justice.

Salvatore (Sam) Amelio – Chair

Telephone: (780) 427-5069
Fax: (780) 427-6821

Provincial Court Nominating Committee

The Provincial Court Nominating Committee provides recommendations to the Minister of Justice on the appointment of individuals to the Provincial Court of Alberta. The Minister of Justice appoints the committee members.

Administration Office

Telephone: (780) 422-9625
Fax: (780) 422-6613

Rules of Court Committee

The Rules of Court Committee makes recommendations to the Minister of Justice on the amendments to the Rules of Court made under the *Court of Appeal Act*, the *Court of Queen's Bench Act* or any other act. The committee consists of six members: the Chief Justice of Alberta or designate, the Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench or designate, the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of Alberta or designate, two members appointed by the Minister of Justice on recommendation of the Law Society of Alberta, and one member appointed by the Minister of Justice.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Jean Côté – Chair
R. Maybank, QC – Secretary

Telephone: (780) 427-4992
Fax: (780) 422-6613

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Aboriginal Justice Initiatives Unit

The Aboriginal Justice Initiatives Unit (AJIU) provides support and strategic advice on Aboriginal justice issues to the deputy ministers and executive committees of Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security.

AJIU works collaboratively with other ministries, agencies and communities on the development of community-based and provincial strategies that promote safety and security in Aboriginal communities.

Bronwyn Shoush – Director

Telephone: (780) 422-2779
Fax: (780) 427-4670
e-mail: bronwyn.shoush@gov.ab.ca

Communications

Communications provides strategic communications advice to the minister, deputy minister, department executive management and staff. Communications staff also work to inform Albertans about the justice system, and department goals, initiatives and achievements. This includes providing Albertans timely, accurate and useful information about publicly available justice system services and resources. The branch also helps provide internal communications services to department staff on Alberta Justice policies, programs, initiatives, issues and other staff matters.

David Dear – Acting Director

Telephone: (780) 427-8530
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Court Services Division

Court Services Division provides Albertans access to the province's three courts: the Court of Appeal of Alberta (in two locations), the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta (in 13 locations) and the Provincial Court of Alberta (in 74 locations). In addition to providing access to the courts, Court Services Division facilitates access to other dispute resolution processes and to justices of the peace.

The three courts maintain all records and accept a wide variety of documents for filing from the public, lawyers, law enforcement agencies and other government departments. Employees record all court proceedings, swear in or affirm witnesses and interpreters, mark and ensure the safekeeping of exhibits, process fines and other payments into court, perform searches, and provide general assistance to lawyers and the public.

Court Services Division develops strategies to provide Albertans with access to a broad range of justice services including specialized courts, mediation and other appropriate dispute resolution mechanisms. In addition, the division develops and implements policies, programs and legislative and regulatory initiatives focusing on family law, Rules of Court, Aboriginal initiatives and new court programs.

Court Services Division also manages the civil enforcement program and operates law libraries to provide legal information to judges, Crown prosecutors, other lawyers and the public.

Barb Hookenson – Assistant Deputy Minister

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Criminal Justice Division

Criminal Justice Division prosecutes all offences under the *Criminal Code of Canada*, the *Youth Criminal Justice Act* and the provincial statutes in all the courts of the province and the Supreme Court of Canada. This work includes, but is not limited to, prosecuting homicide, assault (sexual, aggravated), impaired driving, break and enter, theft and fraud, speeding and other driving offences, but excludes adult drug offences. Criminal Justice Division works with justice system stakeholders and the community to promote safe communities and implement alternative approaches to the administration of justice.

The division is divided into four branches. Management and Leadership Services provides direct service to the minister, deputy minister, assistant deputy minister and division managers, and supports and participates in criminal law consultations within the province and with other jurisdictions. The branch is also responsible for leading policy and planning initiatives within the division and for coordinating these activities with other stakeholders. The Appeals Branch is responsible for criminal appeals in the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada, addresses complaints of wrongful convictions or miscarriages of justice, and provides legal and strategic advice with respect to legislation. Special Prosecutions provides specialized prosecutorial services in areas of organized crime, significant commercial or corporate crime, technology and Internet crime and mutual international legal assistance. General Prosecutions is responsible for all cases apart from those assigned to the other branches and works with stakeholders to promote safe communities.

Peter Teasdale, QC – Acting Assistant Deputy Minister

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Fax: (780) 422-9639
e-mail: peter.teasdale@gov.ab.ca

Human Resource Services

Human Resource Services provides strategic direction and consultation to assist the department in the achievement of cross-government and corporate human resource plan goals and strategies.

Through a team of human resource professionals, the division offers advisory services in the areas of employee/labour relations, staffing, organizational design and change as well as job evaluation. Working in partnership with other divisions, Human Resource Services develops and enhances human resource programs such as Performance Management, Rewards and Recognition, Learning and Development, Ambassador Program, Mentoring Program, and Health and Wellness including Occupational Health and Safety.

Virginia Van Horn – Executive Director

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e-mail: virginia.vanhorn@gov.ab.ca

Legal Services Division

Legal Services Division is responsible for all civil legal services.

Civil Law provides legal and related strategic services to all government ministries and represents them in matters before the courts and tribunals. Its Constitutional and Aboriginal Law Branch provides specialized advice to the government concerning constitutional and Aboriginal matters. The Legislative Reform Branch provides advice on legislative policy.

Legislative Counsel Office is responsible for drafting government bills, regulations and Orders in Council. This office also works with the Queen's Printer to make the laws of Alberta available to the public.

The Medical Examiner's Office investigates all unexplained natural deaths and all unnatural deaths in Alberta under the authority of the *Fatality Inquiries Act*. The Medical Examiner's findings are used to assist in resolving civil and criminal law matters that often arise after a death. The Fatality Review Board reviews cases investigated by the Medical Examiner's Office and recommends to the Minister of Justice in which cases a public fatality inquiry should be held. These inquiries are held before a provincial court judge.

The Public Trustee, acting under the *Public Trustee Act*, protects the financial interests of vulnerable Albertans by administering the estates of dependent adults, decedents and minors.

Peggy Hartman, QC – Assistant Deputy Minister
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Peter Pagano, QC – Chief Legislative Counsel
Telephone: (780) 427-0303
Fax: (780) 422-7366
e-mail: peter.pagano@gov.ab.ca

Graeme Dowling, MD – Chief Medical Examiner
Telephone: (780) 427-4987
Fax: (780) 422-1265
e-mail: graeme.dowling@gov.ab.ca

Cindy Bentz – Public Trustee
Telephone: (780) 422-3141
Fax: (780) 422-9136
e-mail: cindy.bentz@gov.ab.ca

Maintenance Enforcement Program

The Maintenance Enforcement Program (MEP) ensures that individuals meet their obligations to pay spousal and child support under the terms of their court orders and certain agreements. Once an order or agreement has been registered with MEP, maintenance payments that the debtor (payor) would normally remit directly to the creditor (recipient) are sent to MEP. MEP then forwards the payment to the creditor once the funds have cleared through a trust account.

In cases of default, or non-payment by the debtor, MEP has the legislative authority to take steps to enforce the support owed. These enforcement tools include registrations at the Land Titles and Personal Property Registries; wage, non-wage and federal support deduction notices; federal licence (passport) denials; motor vehicle registry restrictions and driver's licence cancellations; restriction of hunting and fishing licences; registration at the credit bureau and compelling attendance at financial examinations and default court hearings. MEP also has access to a variety of databases to assist in locating a debtor or a debtor's assets or income. In 2005, deterrent penalties were introduced by the program with the intention of promoting the timely payment of maintenance and efficient use of MEP services by all clients.

There are approximately 100,000 creditors and debtors and over 64,000 children registered with MEP.

Manuel da Costa – Executive Director

Telephone: (780) 401-7500
Fax: (780) 401-7515
e-mail: manuel.dacosta@gov.ab.ca

Policy Secretariat

The Policy Secretariat provides support to the ministry by providing strategic planning; research; and policy coordination, development, and advice. Additionally, the unit assists the ministry in enhancing public understanding and confidence in the justice system. To do this, it works with groups that provide public legal information and with the education system to develop resource materials about the justice system for schools. It collaborates with the executive, program managers and outside stakeholders to identify fundamental justice principles. Programs supporting the administration of justice, and consistent courses of action that will best serve the public interest, are based on these principles.

The unit is jointly managed by the ministry's Executive Management Committee.

Executive Director

Telephone: (780) 427-0842
Fax: (780) 422-9639

Strategic Services Division

In partnership with the ministry's program delivery divisions, Strategic Services Division provides strategic information, tools and processes to achieve the department's goals and enhance its effectiveness. The division provides leadership in the delivery of professional services and strategic advice on matters related to cross-government initiatives, business planning and performance measurement, financial management, financial planning, accounting and reporting, information technology management, official documents management, Internet services, *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* administration, contract management, business continuity planning, and capital planning.

In addition to providing strategic leadership to the ministry, the division also manages the following programs:

The Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program protects victims of motor vehicle accidents where the at-fault party was uninsured or unknown by ensuring they have recourse to claim for their personal injuries. The program also provides medical benefits to victims of motor vehicle accidents where there is no medical insurance in place or where the medical insurance has been exhausted.

The Abandoned and Seized Vehicle Program reimburses towing and storage companies for their services and collects the subsequent debts from the vehicle owners.

The Fines Enforcement Program collects overdue *Criminal Code of Canada* and *Traffic Safety Act* fines.

The Aboriginal Court Worker Program delivers province-wide services to Aboriginal people who are involved in the justice system in either family or criminal court. It is intended to facilitate and enhance access to justice by assisting Aboriginal people to obtain fair and culturally sensitive treatment in the justice system.

Bruce Perry – Assistant Deputy Minister

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Core Business Functions

Alberta Justice had four core business functions in 2005-06:

Prosecutions

Criminal Justice Division prosecutes persons charged with *Criminal Code*, *Youth Criminal Justice Act*, and provincial statute offences. The division promotes safe communities by working with individuals and organizations in the community to identify and implement improved and alternative approaches to the administration of criminal justice. In addition, the division develops criminal law policy for the province and supports criminal law consultation with other levels of government.

Courts

Alberta courts are presided over by an independent judiciary. There are three courts in the province: the Court of Appeal, the Court of Queen's Bench and the Provincial Court. Court Services Division provides administrative support to the courts as well as policy advice and assistance to the minister and the ministry in relation to court issues. Stakeholders of Court Services Division include the public, the legal profession, law enforcement services, correctional authorities and various service providers.

Justice Services to Albertans

The ministry promotes fair and equitable access to the civil and criminal justice system by providing a broad range of justice services through the courts, prosecution and appropriate dispute resolution mechanisms. Access to justice also means addressing barriers of access to the justice system by providing legal representation for Albertans who are in need of assistance and by providing Albertans with accurate and up-to-date information to help them increase their awareness and knowledge about the justice system. In addition, services such as maintenance enforcement, estate and trust administration services and legal aid contribute to the preservation of a safe society for Albertans.

Legal and Strategic Services to Government

Civil Law provides legal services to all government ministries and represents them in matters before the courts and tribunals. Constitutional and Aboriginal Law provides specialized services to the government in constitutional and Aboriginal law matters. Legislative Reform Branch provides advice on legislative policy. The Legislative Counsel Office is responsible for drafting government bills, regulations and Orders in Council.

OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW

Key Factors Influencing Performance

Recognizing trends, identifying new challenges, and being aware of changes in a number of socio-economic sectors is critical in enabling Alberta Justice to continue to provide effective programs, services and supports to Albertans. Awareness of changes and trends provides an opportunity to understand how societal shifts may impact the justice system in Alberta. In turn, Alberta Justice has the opportunity to modify and adjust its policies and programs. Some of the influences and trends that relate to Alberta Justice are discussed below.

- Public safety is a key element in maintaining quality of life and preserving Canada's reputation as one of the safest and most secure countries in the world. In 2005, the national crime rate decreased by 5.0 per cent. Alberta's crime rate for that same year decreased 4.6 per cent, with a 3.7 per cent decrease in the rate of property crime and a 0.4 per cent decrease in the rate of violent crime. While crime rates are falling in general, there are still concerns around homicide and robbery, which are increasing.

- The nature of global organized crime continues to change with the erosion of national borders, the increasing ease of travel, and advances in technology. Organized crime groups are increasingly being linked to one another and are working cooperatively. Cooperation amongst government ministries, enforcement agencies, and other justice stakeholders in shared threat assessments and emergency planning help prevent potential attacks and mitigate their impact if they occur.

- Sexual exploitation of children, including child pornography, Internet luring and the involvement of youth in prostitution is a global issue that victimizes a vulnerable sector of society. The Internet and related communications technologies have greatly enhanced the opportunities for perpetrators to commit sexual crimes against children and have caused the incidence of child and youth exploitation to increase.

- Problems associated with substance abuse, production of illicit drugs and drug trafficking cause harm to individuals, families and communities. Illicit drug use and manufacturing have been identified as precipitating factors for a variety of other types of offences being committed. Alberta agencies, including government ministries, are developing strategies to increase prevention and treatment as well as strategies to combat the growing problems associated with increased crystal methamphetamine use in the province.

- Fraud and identity theft continued to be a significant challenge for Alberta Justice. With the increasing sophistication of the criminal element and the growth in the use of advanced technology by criminals, it is easier than ever to create a completely false identity, assume the identity of a deceased person or use the personal information of an existing person to commit criminal offences. In Canada, in 2005, the Phonebusters National Call Centre received over 11,000 complaints totaling $8.6 million in losses.

- The disproportionate representation of Aboriginal people at all stages in the criminal justice system, as both victims and offenders, continued to be a serious concern. Aboriginal people are the youngest and fastest growing population in Alberta, with one-third of the Aboriginal population 14 years of age or younger. While Aboriginal people represent only seven per cent of Alberta's population, they represent approximately one-third of the provincial youth and adult custody population in Alberta.

- Addressing family violence was a key priority for the Government of Alberta as Alberta continued to have the highest rates of family violence in Canada. This results in significant costs to the criminal justice system and society as a whole. There is growing recognition in society that family violence is a crime. This has led to prevention and intervention initiatives at the community level.

- Traffic safety also continued to be a priority for the Government of Alberta. Alberta Justice increased its focus on the development of enforcement tools for drug and alcohol impaired driving. The ministry also increased its enforcement of overdue traffic fines.

- Every Albertan is entitled to fair and equitable access to, and treatment by the justice system. It is Alberta Justice's responsibility to provide legal education information to the public. This helps them better understand how the justice system works as well as helping them to know their rights, avoid legal problems, and seek out the most appropriate legal remedies. Alberta Justice continued to work to increase access to information about the justice system to enhance public confidence and understanding.

HIGHLIGHTS - PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE

Goal	Measure	Target	Result
Core Business One: Prosecutions			
Goal 1 Promote safe communities in Alberta	Public perception of safety in the home (p.30)	75%	70%
	Public perception of safety in the neighbourhood (p.31)	82%	72%
Core Business Two: Courts			
Goal 2 Promote a fair and accessible civil and criminal justice system	Median elapsed time from first to last appearance (p.36)	Below the Canadian median of 109 days	73 days (Note: the latest data available is for 2003-04)
	Provincial Court civil mediation settlement rate (p.37)	63%	65%
Core Business Three: Justice Services to Albertans			
Goal 3 Provide access to justice services for Albertans in need	Client satisfaction with the services of the Public Trustee's Office (p.40)	87%	89%
	Maintenance Enforcement Program: Dollars due compared to dollars received (per cent collected) (p.41)	88%	91%
	Client satisfaction with legal aid services (p.43)	83%	81%
Goal 4 Improve knowledge of, and confidence in, the justice system	Public knowledge of the justice system (p.47)	65%	62%
	Public confidence in the justice system (p.49)	80%	74%
Core Business Four: Legal and Strategic Services to Government			
Goal 5 Assist government ministries to achieve their objectives through provision of effective legal and related strategic services	Client satisfaction with legal services (p.52)	85%	93%
	Client satisfaction with assistance in meeting corporate goals (p.54)	80%	89%

HIGHLIGHTS - PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE

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	Public perception of safety in the neighbourhood (p.31)	82%	72%
Core Business Two: Courts			
Goal 2 Promote a fair and accessible civil and criminal justice system	Median elapsed time from first to last appearance (p.36)	Below the Canadian median of 109 days	73 days (Note: the latest data available is for 2003-04)
	Provincial Court civil mediation settlement rate (p.37)	63%	65%
Core Business Three: Justice Services to Albertans			
Goal 3 Provide access to justice services for Albertans in need	Client satisfaction with the services of the Public Trustee's Office (p.40)	87%	89%
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SUMMARY OF KEY ACTIVITIES

In 2005-06, Alberta Justice continued to focus on ensuring the justice system is efficient, effective and responsive to the needs of Albertans. The ministry worked to address six strategic priorities and several corporate strategies. The following summary highlights some of the ministry's key activities:

Strategic Priority One – Children, Youth and Families

- Alberta Justice has been working with partnering ministries to develop an Alberta threat assessment initiative to reduce family violence related injuries and deaths. Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security committed approximately $2 million to implement the Alberta Relationship Threat Assessment and Management Initiative (ARTAMI). In addition, Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security developed a *Domestic Violence Handbook for Police and Crown Prosecutors in Alberta* to provide information on investigative procedures, prosecutions, victims and abusers, risk factors and safety planning.

- Alberta opened domestic violence courts in Medicine Hat, Red Deer and Fort McMurray. This expands access to specialized domestic violence courts, which allows family violence cases to be addressed quickly to decrease the potential for abusers to re-offend.

- The Western Canada Lottery Corporation is now reporting to the Maintenance Enforcement Program (MEP) the names of maintenance debtors residing in Alberta that win amounts over $1,001. This enables MEP to attach the lottery winnings to apply toward the debtor's arrears. MEP can also now restrict the purchase of recreational hunting and fishing licences until payment arrangements are made or arrears are paid off.

- Alberta Justice allocated additional dollars for Crown resources to enhance the prosecution service's capacity to work with police services and other criminal justice partners in addressing growing concerns of sexual exploitation of children through the use of technology.

Strategic Priority Two – Partnership and Public Knowledge

- Alberta Justice continued to consult with stakeholders on changes to programs, policies and services that impact the public. The Minister of Justice and Attorney General and the Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security co-chair the Justice Policy Advisory Committee (JPAC). Last year, JPAC identified three strategic priorities: public confidence, access to justice and collaborative planning.

- Alberta Justice maintained its partnership with Alberta Education and other stakeholders to identify teachers' needs for school resources about the justice system, including online, interactive resources.

- The ministry established a partnership with the Alberta branch of the Canadian Bar Association and the judiciary to streamline the process for inviting legal professionals to speak in classrooms across the province about Alberta's justice system.

Strategic Priority Three – Aboriginal Policy Initiative

- The ministry continued to encourage communication between the Crown and Aboriginal communities. This communication was enhanced through training. The Aboriginal Liaison Prosecutors Committee met twice and sponsored phase III Aboriginal training at Nakoda Lodge in February 2006.

- Alberta Justice provided the Government of Alberta with legal and strategic advice regarding Aboriginal self-government, including the preparation of ministerial reports.

Strategic Priority Four – Organized Crime

- Alberta Justice, Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security and policing services continued to work to address organized crime through the Integrated Response to Organized Crime (IROC) and the dedication of additional new resources, including four new prosecutor positions.

- The department is working with Alberta Government Services, Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security, Alberta Health and Wellness and others to address security of Alberta drivers' licenses and personal identification cards.

Strategic Priority Five – Traffic Safety

- Alberta Justice has been looking for an appropriate case to make an application to the court for dangerous or long-term offender designations for chronic impaired drivers. Two cases have been identified and are being reviewed to determine if they meet the criteria for either designation.

- Alberta Justice also began the first phase of an initiative to more actively pursue delinquent traffic offenders through the Fines Enforcement Program.

Strategic Priority Six – Access to Justice

- Videoconferencing was installed in a number of court locations to improve access and the efficiency of court operations to enhance safety in the courtroom and in Alberta's communities and to reduce the movement of the accused between remand facilities and courts.

- Work began on the Justice Information Management System (JIMS) project. This multi-year undertaking is intended to address operational and information needs as they relate to the administration of criminal, civil, traffic, family and youth justice.

- The *Family Law Act* was proclaimed in force on October 1, 2005, following extensive consultation and work with judges, the legal community and individual Albertans. The new act updates and consolidates provincial family law so most aspects of family matters are located in one act instead of several. Programs including Parenting After Separation, mediation, Family Law Information Centres and others were integrated under Family Justice Services when the act was proclaimed.

- To address increasing traffic and bylaw infraction ticket volumes, changes to the Justice Online Information Network (JOIN) have been identified and design specifications have been completed to implement electronic ticket processing.

- A new Provincial Court Civil Mediation Program began operating in Lethbridge and Medicine Hat. Mediation provides a means for parties to review and resolve issues, saving time, energy and resources for both parties and the court system.

- To assist unrepresented litigants to navigate the civil justice system, the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program published a comprehensive brochure describing how victims with personal injuries caused by uninsured or unknown drivers can apply for compensation.

Corporate Strategy – Policy Capacity

- Alberta Justice identified the opportunity to improve the overall policy and planning functions within the ministry to become a more policy-informed organization. The ministry continued to gather and share knowledge, and put into place consistent methods and processes for accessing and sharing critical information.

Corporate Strategy – Human Resource Services

- During 2005-06, Human Resource Services transitioned from providing services to both Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security and Alberta Justice and Attorney General to providing services solely to Alberta Justice and Attorney General. The adjustment to one ministry has meant the establishment of a new management and consulting team. Human resource priorities for the ministry included the establishment of a learning and development framework, ongoing promotion of health and wellness and a focus on succession planning.

Corporate Strategy – Ministry Information Communication Technology (ICT) Initiatives

- The ministry continued to provide active participation on cross-government ICT-related committees and working groups. Alberta Justice furthered its work to consolidate ICT infrastructure to better align with Government of Alberta standards through the implementation of new consolidated network and server infrastructure. In addition, a full network reconfiguration project further aligned the ministry with Government of Alberta standards. Alberta Justice continued to explore and leverage new technologies to enhance programs and service delivery throughout the ministry including enhancements to the Maintenance Information Management System (MIMS) and the Justice Online Information Network (JOIN), as well as the completion of the ministry's SuperNet implementation throughout the province.

RESULTS ANALYSIS

A Message from the Deputy Minister

This annual report sets out our results in achieving the goals and strategic priorities described in the 2005-06 ministry business plan. Our overall goal in support of the Government of Alberta was to make Alberta a fair and safe place to work, live and raise families by supporting a trusted justice system that promotes law and order for the purpose of protecting individuals, securing justice for victims, and ensuring offenders are held accountable.

The 2005-06 annual report reflects our success in achieving this outcome as well as the specific results achieved for each of our performance measures. We set challenging targets for our performance measures in the critical areas of public safety and knowledge of the justice system, client satisfaction with ministry services, and effectiveness of our programs.

The justice system is a shared responsibility and the results described in this report reflect partnerships with other government ministries, the judiciary, Aboriginal communities, the legal community, community organizations and local government. The efforts and involvement of committed partners and dedicated individuals are critical to the successes that are described in this annual report.

The ministry played a leadership role in establishing a more responsive justice system by expanding the availability and scope of dispute resolution options and using technology to strengthen the justice system. Videoconferencing equipment was installed in a number of court locations; work began on an IT systems project intended to address operational and information needs as they relate to the administration of criminal, civil, traffic, family and youth justice; a new *Family Law Act* was proclaimed that updates and consolidates provincial family law; and a new Provincial Court Civil Mediation Program began operating in Lethbridge and Medicine Hat.

We also continued to pressure the federal government to take tough positions against violent crimes and those who commit them. To encourage the federal government to reform criminal law, Alberta Justice took the lead on the issue of conditional sentences of imprisonment, making Alberta's position very clear to the federal government that in order to maintain public confidence in the justice system, those convicted of serious offences must face real jail time. Alberta also endorsed Parliament's action to amend the *Criminal Code of Canada* relating to mandatory minimum jail sentences for almost all child sexual exploitation offences, including all child pornography offences.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY MINISTER

The ministry also worked toward ensuring that Albertans will be self-reliant and independent and those unable to provide for their own basic needs will receive help by ensuring that low-income Albertans have access to legal services that they would not otherwise be able to obtain. In addition, our Maintenance Enforcement Program (MEP) has been working with other programs across Canada to raise awareness that children need love, attention and financial support from both of their parents. The program also implemented new tools to encourage debtors to pay court-ordered support for their families.

The ministry also completed its multi-year organizational renewal project. The outcomes are an improved workplace environment, improved efficiency and effectiveness of operations, as well as improved service delivery and long-term sustainability of the ministry.

Alberta Justice's management team and staff have demonstrated hard work, dedication and commitment in the past year. I extend my appreciation to them for doing an excellent job of meeting the needs of Albertans across the province in 2005-06.

Terrence J. Matchett, QC
Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General
Ministry of Justice

AUDITOR GENERAL
Alberta

Report of the Auditor General on the Results of Applying Specified Auditing Procedures to Key Performance Measures

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly

Management is responsible for the integrity and objectivity of the performance results included in the *Ministry of Justice's* 2005-06 *Annual Report.* My responsibility is to carry out the following specified auditing procedures on key performance measures in the annual report. I verified:

Completeness

1. Key performance measures and targets matched those included in Budget 2005. Actual results are presented for all key performance measures.

Reliability

2. Information in reports from external organizations, such as Statistics Canada, matched information that the Ministry used to calculate the actual results.

3. Information in reports that originated in the Ministry matched information that the Ministry used to calculate the actual results. In addition, I tested the processes the Ministry used to compile the results.

Comparability and Understandability

4. Actual results are presented clearly and consistently with the stated methodology and are presented on the same basis as targets and prior years' information.

I found no exceptions when I performed these procedures.

As my examination was limited to these procedures, I do not express an opinion on whether the set of measures is relevant and sufficient to assess the performance of the Ministry in achieving its goals.

Fred J. Dunn FCA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
July 4, 2006

CORE BUSINESS ONE: PROSECUTIONS

GOAL ONE – Promote Safe Communities In Alberta

Through public consultations, Albertans have indicated that it is a high priority for them to have peaceful communities in which they can live, work, and raise their families in safety and security without fear of crime or victimization. However, the ministry recognizes that when someone does become a victim of crime, they must be treated with respect and effective services must be available to assist them through the criminal justice process.

Strategic Accomplishments

The following section highlights the ministry's accomplishments related to the strategies identified under goal one in the 2005-08 business plan.

Strategy 1.1
Work with partners within the criminal justice system to improve the efficiency of criminal cases moving through the courts, through early case resolution, centralization of disclosure practices where possible and use of electronic court briefs.

- The Provincial Disclosure Coordination Committee is examining the establishment of disclosure centres in Calgary, Edmonton and one or two regional offices. These centres will be jointly run and managed by the Crown and police and will address issues related to electronic file transfer. Pilot projects to improve docket court efficiency began in Edmonton and Calgary.

Strategy 1.2
Solicit support within the provincial/territorial arena to press the federal government to reform criminal law relating to age of consent, conditional sentences, Internet luring and clarification of disclosure requirements (including but not limited to victim impact statements).

- Alberta participated in the federal/provincial/territorial working groups and the coordinating committee of senior officials. Alberta led discussions resulting in consensus on the proposed conditional sentence amendment in Bill C-70 prior to the dissolution of Parliament. Feedback was provided on the Justice Canada paper on potential disclosure amendments to the *Criminal Code*. The minister wrote to the newly appointed federal Minister of Justice and Attorney General outlining Alberta's position on a number of key justice issues.

Strategy 1.3

Collaborate with traffic safety partners to focus on chronic impaired drivers and where appropriate, make applications to the court for dangerous offender or long-term offender designations.

- Alberta Justice has been looking for an appropriate case to make such an application. Two cases were identified and are being reviewed to determine if they will meet the long-term offender or dangerous offender criteria.

Strategy 1.4

Consistent with the Alberta drug abuse strategy, work with partners to enhance strategies that focus on enforcement and reducing the supply of drugs to impact the availability, with particular attention to methamphetamine, and address community concerns about the environmental and health impacts of residences used for drug labs and grow operations.

- Alberta Justice developed a crystal methamphetamine action plan that was presented to the Task Force on Crystal Methamphetamine. The ministry continues to actively participate in ongoing cross-ministry committees to address illegal use of drugs, production and trafficking.

Strategy 1.5

Work with partners to develop a provincial response/policy regarding economic and organized crime by:

- Participating in the Integrated Response to Organized Crime (IROC) Initiative, to work toward disrupting and dismantling organized crime in Alberta; and
- Participating in a cross-government committee on identity theft.

- Alberta Justice, Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security and policing services in Alberta are at the forefront in addressing organized crime through the Integrated Response to Organized Crime (IROC) and dedication of new resources. Alberta Justice is developing significant experience prosecuting identity theft related offences, including credit/debit card skimming and fraud. We are working cooperatively with local financial institutions and police services, and police and prosecution services in other provinces, to stem the tide of credit/debit card skimming gangs that have victimized Alberta consumers and financial institutions.

- The department is working with Alberta Government Services, Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security, Alberta Health and Wellness and others to address security of Alberta drivers' licenses and personal identification cards.

Strategy 1.6

Enhance the capacity of the prosecution service to work with police services and other criminal justice partners to address growing concerns with sexual exploitation of children through the use of technology.

- Child pornography shared over the web is increasing. In 2000, Alberta had three Internet child pornography cases before the courts. There are now about 90. Since Alberta Justice designated a technology and Internet crime prosecutor in 2003, dozens of cases have been prosecuted resulting in stiff sentences, including one where the offender was sentenced to 14 years in jail for making child pornography, and one resulting in the longest sentence for distributing child pornography. Alberta Justice is also working with other jurisdictions to assist them in their own child pornography prosecutions. The designated prosecutor works closely with the Integrated Child Exploitation (ICE) units to provide support with search warrants and legal advice from the outset of the investigations so that, by the time charges are laid, the case for the Crown is as strong as possible.

Strategy 1.7

Work with partnering ministries toward developing the programs and services related to assisting individuals impacted by family violence. Develop an implementation plan to establish an Alberta threat assessment initiative to reduce family violence related injuries and deaths.

- Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security committed approximately $2 million to implement the Alberta Relationship Threat Assessment and Management Initiative (ARTAMI). It will be established under the guidance of the RCMP Provincial Police Service, Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security, Alberta Justice and Alberta Children's Services.

Strategy 1.8

Work with partnering ministries and the Alberta Mental Health Board to implement the Provincial Diversion Program.

- Alberta Health and Wellness allocated $1.6 million to implement the Provincial Diversion Program in 2005-06. Funding is being administered through the Alberta Mental Health Board (AMHB) to support programs in Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge and St. Paul. Alberta Justice continues to work with AMHB to implement this program.

Strategy 1.9

Apply the *Canadian Statement of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime* (2003) and adopt courteous, compassionate and respectful approaches to make court less intimidating for victims, as well as children and youth who testify in proceedings. Focus on enhancing communication with victims of serious and violent crime while their matters are before the courts.

- Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security is the lead on developing a victims protocol to assist in implementing the principles in the *Victims of Crime Act*. Alberta Justice played an active role in the consultations that took place from January to March 2006.

KEY MEASURE 1 - Public Perception of Safety in the Home

Performance Summary. The majority of Albertans are not worried about their safety from crime in their own homes. Seventy per cent said they were not at all worried. Twenty-eight per cent were somewhat worried. Only two per cent were very worried. This result has been stable for the past five years of data collection.

Those feeling somewhat more worried than others about their safety from crime in their homes include women, those from households with annual incomes of less than $30,000, those with less than high school education and victims of crime.

Key Measure	
Public perception of safety in the home	The results of the *2005-06 Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security Survey of Albertans* indicated that 70 per cent of Albertans said that they feel not at all worried about their safety from crime when alone in their own homes. This result is down slightly from 72 per cent. It does not meet this year's target of 75 per cent.

Discussion and Analysis. According to an article prepared by Jennifer Tufts for the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics on public attitudes toward the criminal justice system, "governments, academics, political groups, and journalists often measure public attitudes toward the criminal justice system, crime and offenders in an attempt to discover how members of the public perceive crime and various justice issues. It is important to examine public attitudes because they have the ability to influence the development of social policy."[1]

The article goes on to explain that "some of the factors that may influence a person's attitudes include their sex, age, level of education, satisfaction with personal safety, and victimization experience."[2] Previous experience with crime especially impacts perception of safety. Victims of crime are significantly more worried about crime than non-victims.

Next year, this survey question will change slightly. In the Alberta Justice 2006-09 business plan, public perception of safety in the home will be described as the percentage of Albertans who feel "reasonably safe" to "very safe" in their homes after dark, rather than those "worried" about crime. This new approach allows for direct comparability of safety in the home results with safety in the neighbourhood results, as both questions will use the same scale to measure feelings of "safety" rather than feelings of "worry."

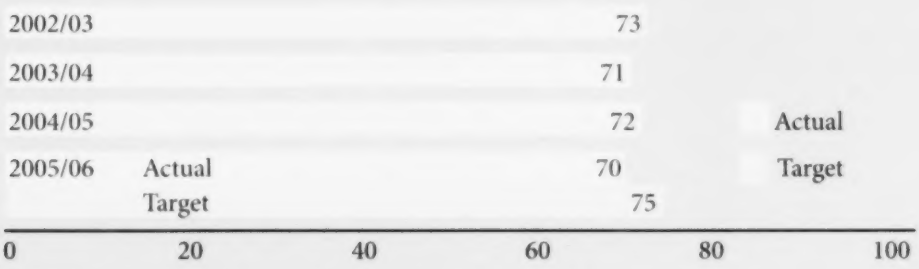
To understand how safe Albertans are feeling in their communities, it is important that results for safety in the home and in the neighbourhood be comparable.

[1] Jennifer Tufts. Public Attitudes Toward the Criminal Justice System, Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 85-002-X1E, Vol. 20 No. 12, p. 2.

[2] Jennifer Tufts, p. 2.

Public Perception of Safety in the Home

The percentage of Albertans who feel "not at all worried" about their safety from crime when alone in their own homes.



Source: *Annual Public Opinion Survey, Research Innovations*

For methodology related to this measure, see page 55.

KEY MEASURE 2 - Public Perception of Safety in the Neighbourhood

Performance Summary. Most Albertans feel safe walking alone at night in their neighbourhood. When asked, 36 per cent of Albertans felt very safe and 36 per cent felt reasonably safe. The remaining Albertans who felt unsafe tended to be women, those who are divorced, widowed or separated, those over the age of 65, those earning under $30,000 annually, victims of crime, residents of Edmonton and those with less than high school education.

Key Measure

Public perception of safety in the neighbourhood

The results of the *2005-06 Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security Survey of Albertans* indicated that 72 per cent of Albertans felt safe walking alone in their area after dark. This is down substantially from last year's result of 77 per cent. The result does not meet this year's target of 82 per cent.

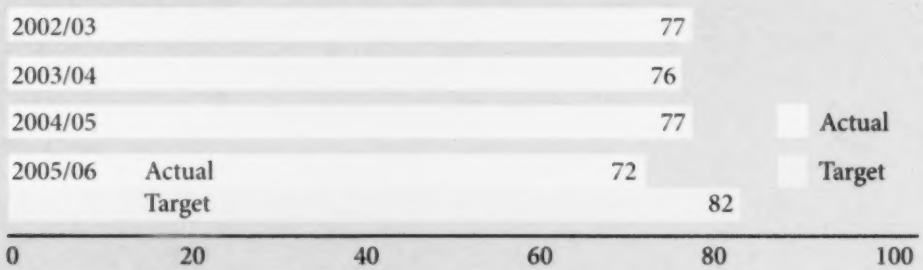
Discussion and Analysis. Like safety in the home, safety in the neighbourhood measures the public's perception of the ministry's success at ensuring safe communities. In their overview report on the findings of the 2004 General Social Survey on Victimization, Statistics Canada notes again that "perceptions of crime in the community can be shaped by a number of factors including, previous personal and household victimization; experiences of others; and media reports of criminal incidents."[3]

This year's result of 72 per cent is lower than the 77 per cent achieved in 2004-05 and fails to meet this year's target of 82 per cent. This may be a result of increased media coverage for serious crime leading to a perception of increased crime overall. While Alberta's overall rate of violent crime decreased slightly in 2005, there were increases in the rates of homicide and robbery.

Survey results related to overall feelings of safety in the neighbourhood are consistent across several other survey questions. For example, in addition to being asked how safe they feel walking in their area after dark, survey respondents were also asked how serious a problem they perceive crime in their neighbourhood to be. Sixty per cent of Albertans believe that crime is not a serious problem in their neighbourhood. As well, 60 per cent of Albertans believe that there is less crime in their neighbourhood than in other areas of the province. Fifty-six per cent believe that the amount of crime in their neighbourhood has decreased or remained the same in the past year.

Public Perception of Safety in the Neighbourhood

The percentage of Albertans who feel "reasonably safe" to "very safe" walking alone in their area after dark.



Source: *Annual Public Opinion Survey, Research Innovations*

For methodology related to this measure, see page 55.

[3] General Social Survey on Victimization, Cycle 18: An Overview of Findings, Statistics Canada, Catalogue no. 85-565 X1E, 2004, p. 6.

CORE BUSINESS TWO: COURTS

GOAL TWO – Promote a fair and accessible civil and criminal justice system

Justice is responsible for helping to resolve criminal cases and civil disputes. This includes reasonable access to court resources, and dispute resolution opportunities. Where appropriate, this includes alternatives to traditional court processes, such as mediation, judicial dispute resolution, and mini-trials. By speeding up the process and lowering costs, these alternatives can improve access.

Strategic Accomplishments

The following section highlights the ministry's accomplishments related to the strategies identified under goal two in the 2005-08 business plan.

Strategy 2.1
Review and prepare proposals for the recognition and enforcement of Canadian and foreign judgments and the jurisdiction of courts.

- Alberta Justice is currently waiting for a written decision from the Supreme Court of Canada on a relevant case, which examines the extent to which orders of foreign courts are to be recognized and enforced in Canadian jurisdictions. As a result of other priorities, the minister has approved a legislative plan moving the timing of the enforcement project forward to fall 2008.

Strategy 2.2
Review and prepare proposals on whether all pensions, annuities or RRSPs should be immune from the enforcement of judgments.

- In March 2006, the Standing Policy Committee on Justice and Government Services agreed to exempt RRSPs and other future income security plans from a creditor's enforcement of judgments against a debtor. The committee also agreed on the establishment of an interdepartmental committee to bring forward specific recommendations. The committee is comprised of designates from Alberta Finance; Alberta Seniors and Community Supports; and Alberta Justice's Court Services Division, Maintenance Enforcement Program and Legislative Reform Branch. The committee is in the process of preparing a proposed terms of reference, a work plan and a consultation paper.

Strategy 2.3

Review and prepare proposals to consolidate Alberta succession statutes (laws dealing with the disposition of property on death).

- A steering committee has been established with representation from Court Services Division, the Public Trustee's Office and Legal Services Division. Priority areas to be addressed in the initial phase of the project have been identified in discussion with the Public Trustee's Office and the Alberta Law Reform Institute. A proposed terms of reference, work plan and options paper have been developed. The working group is in the process of identifying issues and preparing recommendations.

Strategy 2.4

Work with the Alberta Law Reform Institute in areas of tort reform, including structured settlements and joint and several liability, to improve the efficiency of the justice system.

- Amendments to the *Judicature Act*, originally introduced in the spring of 2004, allow for structured settlements in injury and death cases. After passage of this legislation in 2004, feedback was received from the Alberta Law Reform Institute. This feedback was shared with stakeholders. After additional consultation with stakeholders, minor amendments were introduced in the spring of 2006 in order to refine and clarify the original amendments and incorporate feedback received.

  These amendments allow for settlements to be paid out in installments, rather than in a lump sum. This legislation will help protect the current and future needs of Albertans impacted by injury or death.

Strategy 2.5

Use technology as a primary tool to improve access to the court system through initiatives such as videoconferencing and developing a more effective case management system.

- Provincial Court videoconferencing for the docket and arraignment court appearances project is well under way. In 2005-06 videoconferencing equipment was installed in a number of additional court locations to improve access and the efficiency of court operations, enhance safety in the courtroom and in Alberta's communities, and reduce the movement of the accused between remand facilities and courts.

- Work began on the Justice Information Management System (JIMS), a multi-year undertaking intended to address operational and information needs as they relate to the administration of criminal, civil, traffic, family and youth justice. A request for proposal to acquire the services of a consulting company to help identify business requirements and prepare a business case was issued in March 2006.

Strategy 2.6
Implement the *Family Law Act* in a manner consistent with the family justice strategy.

The *Family Law Act* was proclaimed in force on October 1, 2005. Training of court administrators, client departments and the legal profession, including the judiciary, on the *Family Law Act* took place in September 2005. Programs including Parenting After Separation, mediation, Family Law Information Centres and others were in the process of integrating under Family Justice Services at the time of proclamation.

Strategy 2.7
Continue to implement a civil mediation project in the Court of Queen's Bench.

As of March 31, 2006 the pilot program was ongoing. An evaluation of the program is planned for the fall of 2006.

Strategy 2.8
Work with Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation and the judiciary on Alberta's courts to ease the strain on court facilities. This is to include the consolidation of the Calgary courts.

Construction of the Calgary Courts Centre (CCC) is on schedule and continuing toward an opening date in summer 2007. Phase 2 of the CCC, which includes the demolition of the Court of Queen's Bench courthouse as well as the construction of an underground 450 stall parkade with an urban park above it as well as the restoration of the historic Court of Appeal, was approved by Treasury Board in December 2005.

Strategy 2.9
Work with Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security to enhance the integration and effectiveness of the provincial court security program to ensure safety for all participants in the court process.

A joint project management team has been established with Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security and includes members of Alberta Infrastructure and Transportation to direct the implementation of perimeter security. Seven sites had purchased and substantially installed perimeter security equipment by March 2006 with plans to bring it online early in the next fiscal year.

Strategy 2.10
Develop a strategy to address increasing traffic and bylaw infraction ticket volumes and ensure effective processing in the courts. This is to include implementing electronic ticket processing.

- The required changes to the Justice Online Information Network (JOIN) have been identified and design specifications completed. Development of the required software, according to the design specifications, has begun.

Strategy 2.11
Working in partnership with the Alberta Law Reform Institute and the Alberta Rules of Court Committee, rewrite and reduce the complexity of the Rules of Court.

- Over the last fiscal year, input from the stakeholders and working committees was used to prepare a preliminary draft of the new rules.

KEY MEASURE 1 - Median Elapsed Time from First to Last Appearance

Performance Summary. The most current data available for this measure is for 2003-04. In 2003-04, Alberta's median elapsed time from first to last appearance in Provincial Court was 73 days.

Key Measure	
Median elapsed time from first to last appearance	In 2003-04, the median elapsed time from first to last appearance was 73 days for Provincial Court. The ministry met its target, which was to be below the Canadian median of 109 days. In 2002-03, the median elapsed time in Alberta was 71 days.

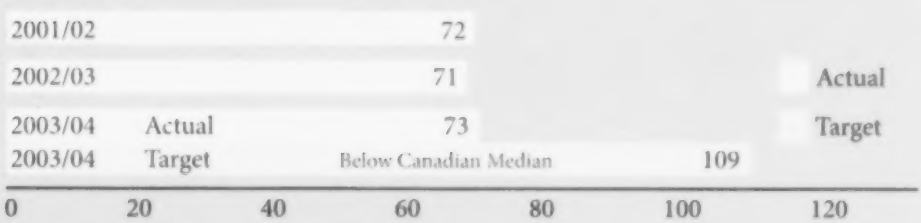
Discussion and Analysis. The results reported in this year's annual report are carried over from the previous year's annual report. Data for 2004-05, which would have been used to report this year's result, is unavailable due to changes in the collection of jurisdictional data made by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS). Data for 2004-05 is expected to be available in late fall of 2006.

Median elapsed time from first to last appearance represents the midpoint in the time elapsed between the first and last appearance for all cases processed in Provincial Court.

In 2003-04, there were 60,105 disposed cases, which is an increase of 1.4 per cent over the 59,248 disposed cases in 2002-03. The 2.8 per cent increase in median elapsed time may be largely attributed to the 1.4 per cent increase in the number of disposed cases and the availability of resources to address the increase.

Median Elapsed Time from First to Last Appearance

The median elapsed time in days that it takes to process a case in provincial criminal court from first to last appearance.



Source: *Adult Criminal Court Survey, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics*

For methodology related to this measure, see page 55.

KEY MEASURE 2 - Provincial Court Civil Mediation Settlement Rate

Performance Summary. In 2005-06 the civil mediation settlement rate was 65 per cent.

Key Measure	
Provincial Court civil mediation settlement rate	In 2005-06, Alberta's Provincial Court civil mediation settlement rate was 65 per cent. The target for this measure was 63 per cent.

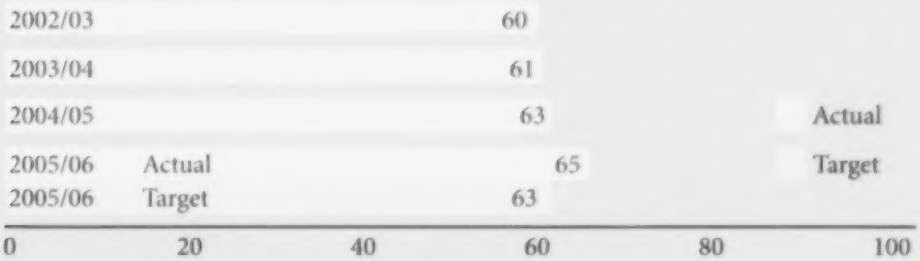
Discussion and Analysis. The Provincial Court civil mediation settlement rate reflects the success of the mediation program. The program aims to increase the number of civil cases resolved through mediation and reduce the number of civil cases that proceed to court. The settlement rate is the number of civil actions settled through mediation in the Civil Claims Program divided by the total number of civil claims settled or not settled through such mediation.

This is a blended rate for Calgary and Edmonton. In 2005-06, Calgary's Provincial Court civil mediation settlement rate was 64 per cent and Edmonton's rate was 66 per cent.

In some cases, lawyers are opposed to mediation or parties are not willing to negotiate in good faith. Both of these factors are hindrances to achieving successful mediated settlements.

Provincial Court Civil Mediation Settlement Rate

The mediation settlement rate is the number of civil actions settled through mediation in the civil claims program divided by the total number of civil claims settled or not settled through such mediation. This is a blended settlement rate of Calgary and Edmonton.



Source: *Administrative Data, Court Services Division*

For methodology related to this measure, see page 56.

CORE BUSINESS THREE: JUSTICE SERVICES TO ALBERTANS

GOAL THREE – Provide access to justice services for Albertans in need

Through its programs and services, the ministry provides support and protection to vulnerable citizens, including families who depend on court-ordered maintenance payments, individuals unable to protect their financial interests, and individuals who cannot afford legal counsel. Helping those in need is essential to Alberta's success.

Strategic Accomplishments

The following section highlights the ministry's accomplishments related to the strategies identified under goal three in the 2005-08 business plan.

Strategy 3.1
Implement field operations and investigations to enhance client services and collections.

- During 2005-06, the Maintenance Enforcement Program Special Investigations Unit (SIU) identified 90 debtors for possible field investigation. These debtors included those wanted on warrants for failing to appear for default hearings and those believed to be driving with cancelled licenses. A total of 47 external operations were conducted, resulting in 12 arrests.

Strategy 3.2
Identify educational and promotional enhancements to the Maintenance Enforcement client services strategy to encourage compliance with support orders.

- A public awareness campaign was launched to coincide with the Maintenance Enforcement Program's 20th anniversary celebrations. The key message of the campaign relates to the needs of children for love, attention and financial support from both of their parents. Alberta's Maintenance Enforcement Program is working closely with all jurisdictions on a national educational/promotional initiative.

Strategy 3.3
Continue the expansion of the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH) Benefits Administration Program beyond the Edmonton, Calgary, central and the northwest regions.

- The program was fully implemented in the northeast region during 2005-06. Due to changes in the AISH regional structure, work was begun to create a single memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the whole province, rather than six regional MOUs. The provincial MOU and the south region will be fully implemented during 2006-07.

Strategy 3.4
Continue discussions with Legal Aid Alberta and the Law Society to resolve governance agreement issues.

- Discussions with Legal Aid Alberta and the Law Society have successfully resolved the governance agreement issues. The governance agreement has been renewed for another five years.

Strategy 3.5
Work with Legal Aid Alberta to address issues regarding Legal Aid's scope of services, method of delivery, governance and financing so the legal aid plan continues to be accessible to Albertans in need.

- The governance and 2006-07 financing issues have been addressed. Discussions with Legal Aid Alberta are continuing in regard to remaining issues in order to develop appropriate strategies for addressing them.

KEY MEASURE 1 - Client Satisfaction with the Services of the Public Trustee's Office

Performance Summary. The majority of clients were satisfied with the services provided by the Office of the Public Trustee.

Key Measure	
Client satisfaction with the services of the Public Trustee's Office	In 2005-06, the satisfaction rate of those clients responding to the survey was 89 per cent. This represents a minimal decrease (1 per cent) from the result achieved last year. It exceeds this year's target of 87 per cent.

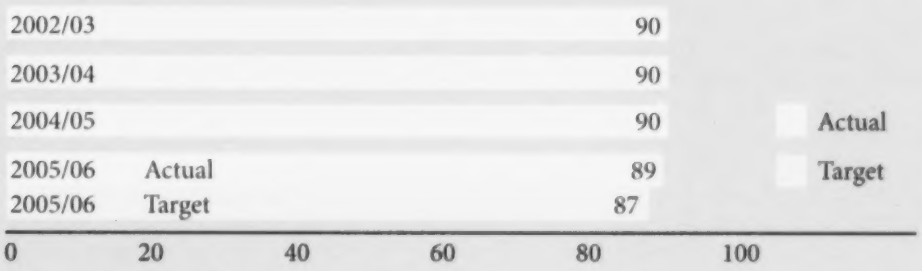
Discussion and Analysis. The Office of the Public Trustee provides estate and trust administration services to disadvantaged Albertans. This measure is used to monitor how well the Public Trustee provides its services and is one measure indicating access to justice services for persons in need.

The measure is a composite of responses to various questions relating to satisfaction with responsiveness and quality of services provided. It is used to monitor how well the Office of the Public Trustee provides its services, to improve services to clients and to establish policies and procedures where deficiencies are noted.

More information on the activities of the Public Trustee is available in the program's annual report, which can be obtained from the Public Trustee. Contact information for the Public Trustee can be found on the Alberta Justice website at *http://www.justice.gov.ab.ca/public_trustee/contact.aspx.*

Client Satisfaction with the Services of the Public Trustee's Office

The percentage of clients "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with the services of the Public Trustee's Office.



Source: *Client Satisfaction Survey, Public Trustee's Office*

For methodology related to this measure, see page 56.

KEY MEASURE 2 - **Maintenance Enforcement Program: Dollars Due Compared to Dollars Received (Per Cent Collected)**

Performance Summary. The Maintenance Enforcement Program achieved a 91 per cent collection rate on scheduled support and scheduled arrears payments.

Key Measure

Maintenance Enforcement Program: Dollars due compared to dollars received (per cent collected)

In 2005-06, the Maintenance Enforcement Program achieved a 91 per cent collection rate. This represents an increase from the 84 per cent collection rate achieved in 2004-05 and exceeds this year's target of 88 per cent.

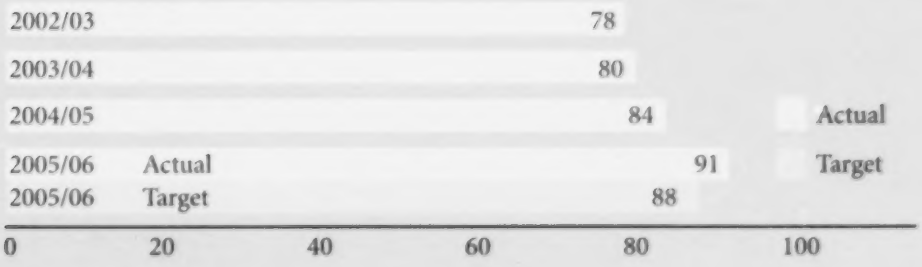
Discussion and Analysis. The Maintenance Enforcement Program (MEP) collects support payments pursuant to court orders and agreements. The program places emphasis on client service, administrative fairness and staff training to assist with voluntary compliance, and, when needed, negotiates settlements of delinquent accounts. The program also has a number of legislative tools and clear guidelines regarding their use, which are employed effectively to enforce maintenance orders and to assist in achieving compliance.

MEP enhanced its staffing during this fiscal year and continued to utilize the Maintenance Information Management System, an automated case management system, to its advantage. In December 2005, penalties for late payment and returned cheques were implemented. Innovative administrative structures were introduced, including the new Financial Examination Unit, which was established to obtain financial disclosure from debtors. These improvements to MEP's priority issues of client services and administrative fairness assisted the program in achieving its increased collection target. Additionally, through arrangements with Alberta Finance and the Canada Revenue Agency, MEP intercepted the Alberta Resource Rebate of all debtors with arrears.

Factors outside MEP's control influence the program's success at collections. These include inaccessibility of the debtor and/or the debtor's resources, court ordered stays of enforcement, and termination of the debtor's income due to unemployment, disability or incarceration.

Maintenance Enforcement Program: Dollars Received Compared to Dollars Due (per cent collected)

The program's collection rate on scheduled support and scheduled arrears payments.



Source: *Maintenance Enforcement Program*

For methodology related to this measure, see page 56.

KEY MEASURE 3 - Client Satisfaction with Legal Aid Services

Performance Summary. The majority of applicants indicated that they were "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the services they received from Legal Aid Alberta when applying for legal aid.

Key Measure	
Client satisfaction with legal aid services	In 2005-06, 81 per cent of respondents were either very satisfied or satisfied with the services they received from Legal Aid Alberta when applying for legal aid. This represents an increase from the 79 per cent satisfaction rate achieved last year. The target for this measure was 83 per cent.

Discussion and Analysis. Of those respondents who reported being satisfied with the services they received from Legal Aid Alberta when applying for legal aid, 35 per cent were very satisfied and 46 per cent indicated they were satisfied. Recipients of legal aid expressed a higher level of satisfaction than non-recipients, although these levels were less pronounced in the 2005-06 survey compared to previous years. Eighty-eight per cent of recipients were either satisfied or very satisfied compared to 60 per cent of non-recipients. Again, those respondents whose legal aid status was unknown had levels of satisfaction between those of the recipients and non-recipients.

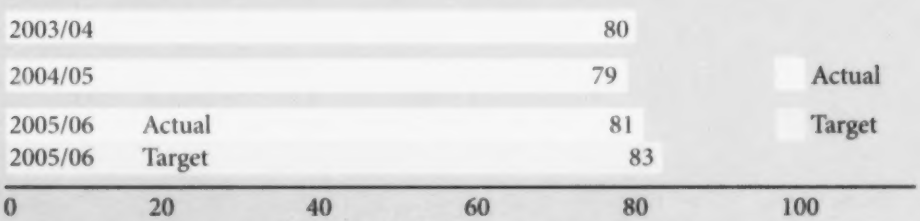
In addition to being asked about their satisfaction with the services they received in applying for legal aid, respondents were also asked questions relating to their satisfaction with services rendered by the legal aid lawyer and satisfaction with all services provided by or through Legal Aid Alberta (e.g., application, billing, legal services).

Seventy-four per cent of recipients were very satisfied or satisfied with the service they received from their legal aid lawyer, while 15 per cent were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied. These results differ slightly from the previous year as a larger proportion of respondents were very satisfied (41 per cent compared to 36 per cent).

Seventy-nine per cent of respondents said that they were very satisfied or satisfied with all of the services received from Legal Aid. Recipients were more positive than non-recipients, with 85 per cent of recipients indicating that they were very satisfied or satisfied with the total services received compared to 59 per cent of non-recipients. (This figure rose from 46 per cent in 2004-05).

Client Satisfaction with Legal Aid Services

The percentage of legal aid applicants who are "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the service they received from Legal Aid Alberta in applying for legal aid.



Source: *Client Satisfaction Survey, Legal Aid Alberta*

For methodology related to this measure, see page 57.

CORE BUSINESS THREE: JUSTICE SERVICES TO ALBERTANS

GOAL FOUR – Improve knowledge of, and confidence in, the justice system

Albertans believe that information and education about the justice system is important to them. Perceptions of crime in their communities and the province, along with the information they receive from the media, affect their understanding of and confidence in the justice system. The ministry works with its partners to find ways of informing Albertans about the justice system, including the development of new strategies and working with Alberta Education and other stakeholders to develop justice education resources for Alberta classrooms.

Strategic Accomplishments

The following section highlights the ministry's accomplishments related to the strategies identified under goal four in the 2005-08 business plan.

Strategy 4.1
Support court initiatives in First Nations communities with designated Crown prosecutors and encourage communication with Aboriginal communities.

- Communication between the Crown and Aboriginal communities continues to be encouraged and enhanced through training. The Aboriginal Liaison Prosecutors Committee met twice and sponsored phase III Aboriginal training at Nakoda Lodge in February 2006.

Strategy 4.2
Consult with stakeholders whenever appropriate on programs, policies, and services in areas of provincial responsibility when contemplating significant changes that will impact the public.

- The Minister of Justice and Attorney General and the Solicitor General and Minister of Public Security co-chair the Justice Policy Advisory Committee. The committee is a collaborative group of key stakeholders in the justice system that have identified three strategic priorities: access to justice, public confidence, and collaborative planning. A subcommittee for each strategic priority was established.

Strategy 4.3
To initiate and maintain partnerships with stakeholders to identify existing information gaps and needs, as well as effective justice education strategies.

- Alberta Justice maintained its partnership with Alberta Education and other partners to identify teachers' needs for school resources about the justice system for the revised Grades 6 and 9 Social Studies curriculum programs.

Strategy 4.4
Develop and implement initiatives in consultation with partners to increase Albertans' awareness, education, understanding and confidence in the justice system.

- Alberta Justice established a unique partnership with the Alberta branch of the Canadian Bar Association and the judiciary to streamline the process for inviting legal professionals to speak in classrooms across the province. The Justice Education Speakers Centre provides an easy, one-step, online form. It is also supported by the judiciary and the Law Society of Alberta, and is designed in line with educational activities that support the Alberta Education Social Studies curriculum. The Justice Education Speakers Centre is available online at *http://www.justice.gov.ab.ca/public_education/just_edu_speak_centre.aspx.*

Strategy 4.5
Work with Alberta Education and other stakeholders to develop justice education resources for Alberta classrooms.

- Alberta Justice collaborated with Alberta Education and other partners to develop an electronic resource about the justice system for the revised Grade 3 Alberta Social Studies curriculum. The 2005-06 school year marks the first time students will learn about Alberta's justice system as a formal part of the new curriculum. The resource, Alberta's Justice System in Your Community, was launched February 10, 2006 and is available online at *http://www.justice.gov.ab.ca/education/ajs_in_your_community/home.htm.*

Strategy 4.6
Develop court information services for all participants in the court process.

- In June 2005, a "think tank" held between the three courts, the minister and senior Alberta Justice staff identified self-represented litigants as a priority. A self-represented litigants advisory committee was formed to respond to issues involving self-represented and unrepresented litigants. Members of the committee include representatives from Alberta Justice, judiciary from the three courts, and community partners.

In addition to engaging in dialogue with non-government service providers regarding self-represented and unrepresented litigant issues, a mapping exercise is being planned that will document the services, supports, and referral networks offered by current service providers. This exercise will not only result in insight into the issues surrounding the current service delivery to self-represented and unrepresented litigants, but may also uncover ways of bringing services more closely in line with their needs. To better understand the characteristics of self-represented litigants, a survey was conducted late in the fiscal year. A report on the survey will follow early in the next fiscal year.

KEY MEASURE 1 - Public Knowledge of the Justice System

Performance Summary. The majority of Albertans feel knowledgeable about the justice system in Alberta. Sixty-two per cent of Albertans feel very or somewhat knowledgeable about the justice system. Thirty-eight per cent indicated they feel not very or not at all knowledgeable.

Key Measure	
Public knowledge of the justice system	The results of the *2005-06 Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security Survey of Albertans* indicated that 62 per cent of Albertans said that they feel knowledgeable about the justice system in Alberta. Ten per cent feel very knowledgeable and 52 per cent feel somewhat knowledgeable. This is down from 65 per cent in 2005. This year's target was 65 per cent.

Discussion and Analysis. In 2004, Julian Roberts, a professor of criminology at the University of Ottawa, prepared a report for Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada discussing public confidence in criminal justice. In it, he noted that a high level of public knowledge of the justice system is desirable from a public policy perspective because knowledge of the justice system and confidence in the justice system are closely related. Confidence levels for elements of the justice system are impacted by public misconceptions about the purpose and function of the system. [4] Misconceptions of the justice system based on inaccurate media representations of crime and justice contribute to undermining public confidence in the criminal justice system and the professionals who work within it. [5]

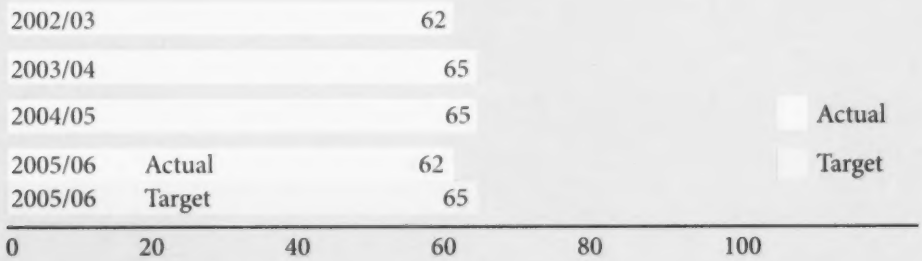
In her article on public attitudes toward the criminal justice system, which was prepared for the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Jennifer Tufts notes "crime is frequently in the news and the media help shape the attitudes and perceptions of the public." Specifically, "for most people, knowledge about various things for which they have no experience comes from the media. Several studies have been conducted [in other jurisdictions] to determine just how many people depend on the media as their source of knowledge. Findings indicate that there are many people who consider newspapers, television, and other media their main source of education for information about crime, offenders, and the criminal justice system." [6]

[4] Julian Roberts, Public Confidence in Criminal Justice: A Review of Recent Trends 2004-05, Report for Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada, November 2004, p.v.
[5] Julian Roberts, p. 23.
[6] Jennifer Tufts, p. 3 (Box 2).

Fortunately, Albertans are very interested in learning the facts about the justice system. Alberta Justice has a receptive audience for its various public education initiatives. In the Alberta Justice public opinion survey, 76 per cent of Albertans said they are very (24 per cent) or somewhat (52 per cent) interested in learning more about the justice system. Eighty-six per cent of respondents indicated interest in learning more about how crimes are prosecuted; 82 per cent were interested in learning more about how fair courts are provided; and 75 per cent were interested in learning more about how justice services, such as legal aid, maintenance enforcement, and the services of the Public Trustee, are provided to Albertans in need.

Public Knowledge of the Justice System

The percentage of Albertans who feel "somewhat knowledgeable" to "very knowledgeable" about the justice system in Alberta.



Source: *Annual Public Opinion Survey, Research Innovations*

For methodology related to this measure, see page 57.

KEY MEASURE 2 - Public Confidence in the Justice System

Performance Summary. The majority of Albertans have confidence in the justice system: 74 per cent have confidence and 26 per cent do not. When asked how much confidence they have that a good job has been done over the past 12 months by Alberta Justice, 64 per cent of Albertans thought the ministry had done a good job.

Key Measure	
Public confidence in the justice system	The results of the *2005-06 Alberta Justice and Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security Survey of Albertans* indicated that 74 per cent of Albertans said that they have confidence in the justice system in Alberta. Fourteen per cent have a lot of confidence and 60 per cent have some confidence in the justice system. This is down from 78 per cent in 2005. This year's target was 80 per cent.

Discussion and Analysis. In her article for the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Jennifer Tufts notes that, "the nature of public reaction and assessment, and thus public attitudes pertaining to the criminal justice system, is complex. The social attitudes toward criminal justice processes are linked to both personal characteristics and other beliefs regarding the nature of crime and the operation of the criminal justice system. For instance, the level of public satisfaction is often related to a variety of factors including, the respondent's sex, age, level of education, previous contact with the criminal justice system, history of victimization and satisfaction with personal safety."[7]

She found that national surveys indicate that people who feel they are safe from crime are more likely to have positive attitudes toward the criminal courts. The Alberta survey has found that people who are more fearful of crime tend to have less confidence in the justice system as a whole.

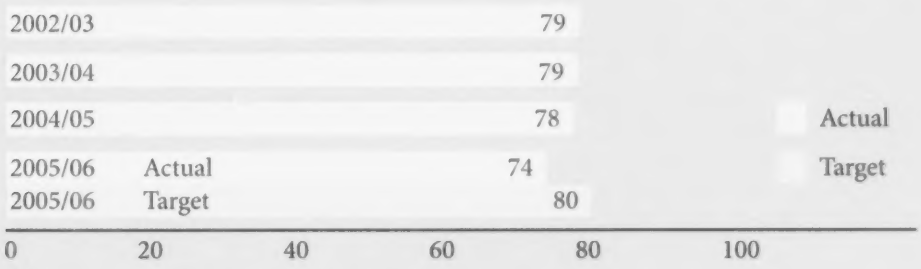
[7] Jennifer Tufts, p. 4.

Confidence in the justice system has decreased in Alberta in the last several years from 79 per cent in 2003-04 and 78 per cent in 2004-05. Confidence is lower among those respondents from households earning less than $20,000, those with less than high school education and victims of crime.

Confidence in the justice system is also closely related to knowledge of the justice system although the relationship is a complex one. Public opinion survey results show that respondents who feel more knowledgeable are also more confident with the significant exception of victims who report high levels of knowledge but low confidence in the system.

Public Confidence in the Justice System

The percentage of Albertans who feel "some confidence" to "a lot of confidence" in the justice system in Alberta



Source: *Annual Public Opinion Survey, Research Innovations*

For methodology related to this measure, see page 57.

CORE BUSINESS FOUR: LEGAL AND STRATEGIC SERVICES TO GOVERNMENT

GOAL FIVE – Assist government ministries to achieve their objectives through provision of effective legal and related strategic services

The government performs a number of roles as service provider, community partner and lawmaker. These roles involve relationships with individuals, families, communities and other governments. Effective legal services reduce the potential for conflict involving the government, as well as protecting and advancing the interests of the government. By providing effective legal and related strategic services, Alberta Justice can assist other ministries in achieving their corporate goals and strategic priorities.

Strategic Accomplishments

The following section highlights the ministry's accomplishments related to the strategies identified under goal five in the 2005-08 business plan.

Strategy 5.1
Enhance alignment of legal service resources with government ministries by continuing to:
- Implement the use of legal service protocol agreements with client ministries, and
- Improve our corporate counsel services to meet the needs of client ministries.

Legal service protocols have been entered into with government ministries and will be renewed for the next fiscal year to address legal service needs. The corporate counsel role continues to be used to meet clients' legal needs. The protocols assist in identifying clients' legal needs for the upcoming year.

Strategy 5.2
Enhance the preventative law component of corporate counsel services to assist client ministries in identifying and managing legal risk.

As part of the corporate counsel services, lawyers explore ways to reduce legal risk to clients when providing legal advice.

Strategy 5.3
Review and prepare proposals to clarify the jurisdiction of certain administrative tribunals relating to Aboriginal and constitutional issues.

- Alberta enacted the *Administrative Procedures Amendment Act, 2005*, which received royal assent on May 10, 2005 and was proclaimed in force on April 3, 2006. Under that act, Alberta filed the Designation of Constitutional Decision Makers Regulation designating which administrative tribunals have jurisdiction over questions of constitutional law.

Strategy 5.4
Raise issues surrounding Aboriginal self-government at the assistant deputy minister (ADM) and deputy minister level and provide legal and strategic advice to respective cross-ministry committees.

- The ADM committee on Aboriginal self-government and appropriate deputy ministers instructed that a First Nations self-government ministerial report be prepared. This report was reviewed and signed by ministers, and reviewed by the Agenda and Priorities Committee, the Health and Community Living Standing Policy Committee and Cabinet. It was approved with a few changes and a formal document is being prepared by Alberta Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development that reflects the ministerial report and the requested changes.

KEY MEASURE 1 - Client Satisfaction with Legal Services

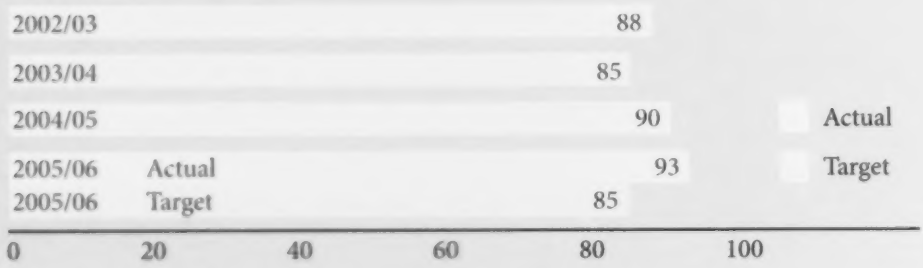
Performance Summary. The vast majority of client ministries were satisfied with the legal services provided by Alberta Justice.

Key Measure	
Client satisfaction with legal services	In 2005-06, 93 per cent of clients surveyed responded that they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the legal services provided by Legal Services Division, Civil Law. This is an increase over the previous year's result of 90 per cent and exceeds this year's target of 85 per cent.

Discussion and Analysis. The results of the survey assist Alberta Justice in assessing success at delivering effective legal services to government. Ninety-three per cent of clients surveyed responded they were either "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the legal services provided. On a more detailed level, client satisfaction was between 82 – 96 per cent in various areas ranging from responsiveness, practicality of advice, thoroughness and legal services provided in a courteous way. This year's improved client satisfaction rating may be a result of Legal Services Division's increased efforts in keeping clients informed about their file and providing practical answers to real situations. Increased client satisfaction may also be due to the ministry's focus on improving the corporate counsel services provided to clients.

Client Satisfaction with Legal Services

The percentage of client ministries "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with the legal services provided by Legal Services Division, Civil Law.



Source: *Client Satisfaction Survey, Legal Services Division*

For methodology related to this measure, see page 58.

KEY MEASURE 2 - Client Satisfaction with Assistance in Meeting Corporate Goals

Performance Summary. The vast majority of client ministries were satisfied that the legal services provided by Alberta Justice helped them to achieve their department's corporate goals.

Key Measure

Client satisfaction with assistance in meeting corporate goals

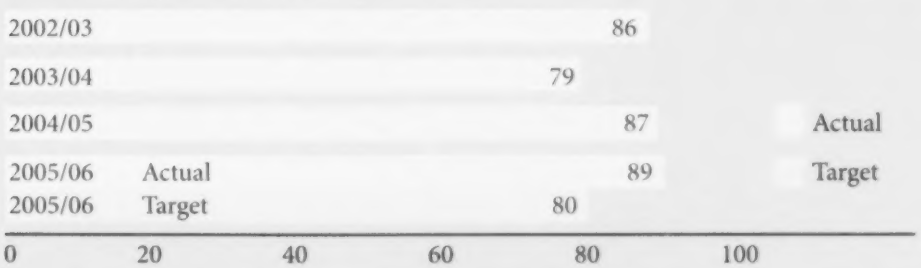
In 2005-06, 89 per cent of clients surveyed responded that they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the assistance provided by Alberta Justice, Legal Services Division in meeting corporate goals. This is an increase over the previous year's result of 87 per cent and exceeds this year's target of 80 per cent.

Discussion and Analysis. By providing effective legal and related strategic services, Alberta Justice assists other ministries in achieving their objectives. As part of the ongoing process to ensure that Alberta Justice, Legal Services Division continues to provide effective and strategic legal services, the ministry conducts an annual client satisfaction survey. The questionnaire provides clients with the opportunity to rate their level of satisfaction with the legal services they have received.

In 2005-06, 89 per cent of all clients were either "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the assistance provided by Legal Services Division in meeting corporate goals. This year's outcome is an improvement over the 87 per cent achieved last year. Improved client satisfaction may be a result of the division's increased focus on preventative law to assist client ministries in identifying and managing legal risk.

Client Satisfaction with Assistance in Meeting Corporate Goals

The percentage of client ministries "satisfied" to "very satisfied" that the legal services provided by Legal Services Division, Civil Law helped them achieve their ministry's corporate goals.



Source: *Client Satisfaction Survey, Legal Services Division*

For methodology related to this measure, see page 58.

GOAL ONE – Promote safe communities in Alberta

KEY MEASURE 1 - Public Perception of Safety in the Home

Methodology. A public opinion telephone survey is conducted on an annual basis. The survey averages 20 minutes in length and was last conducted in January 2006. Professionally trained interviewers conducted all interviews from a central telephone facility. The survey is completed on a computer-assisted telephone interviewing system that allows for ongoing tabulation of results. Ten per cent of all interviews were monitored online.

As in previous years, in 2006 a total of 750 surveys were completed. To survey a random and representative sample of adult Albertans, quotas were established based on 2001 census data from Statistics Canada. In each of six geographic regions of the province, the number of interviews in each age-gender segment was proportionate to their 2001 population estimates. Results are reliable to within +/- 3.6 per cent at the 95 per cent confidence level.

KEY MEASURE 2 - Public Perception of Safety in the Neighbourhood

Methodology. As described under Key Measure 1: Public Perception of Safety in the Home.

GOAL TWO – Promote a fair and accessible civil and criminal justice system

KEY MEASURE 1 - Median Elapsed Time from First to Last Appearance

Methodology. Median elapsed time from first to last appearance represents the mid-point in elapsed time between first and last appearance for all cases processed in Provincial Court.

Performance data for median elapsed time from first to last appearance is obtained from the *Adult Criminal Court Survey* (ACCS), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS). The ministry provides annual data from the Justice Online Information Network (JOIN) to the ACCS through an automated interface. At CCJS, the data are edited, verified and signed off with the ministry. In 2003-04, adult criminal courts in nine provinces and one territory reported to the ACCS. Reporting jurisdictions include Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, and the Yukon. Manitoba, Northwest Territories and Nunavut do not supply data to the survey. In addition, in 2003-04 Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Alberta, British Columbia, and the Yukon reported superior court data to the ACCS (less than one per cent of total caseload). These jurisdictions represent approximately 90 per cent of the national adult criminal court caseload.

The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics is in the process of replacing the ACCS with the *Integrated Criminal Court Survey* (ICCS), which will report on both adult and youth criminal court data. This new survey will result in case definition changes, which will in turn result in a break in the time series, thus making previous years' results incomparable.

KEY MEASURE 2 - **Provincial Court Civil Mediation Settlement Rate**

Methodology. The settlement rate is a percentage of all scheduled cases resolved. The settlement rate is the number of civil actions settled through mediation in the civil claims program divided by the total number of civil claims settled or not settled through such mediation. This is a blended rate for Calgary and Edmonton. Every month, Calgary and Edmonton mediation coordinators count the successful and unsuccessful mediations and enter them in a spreadsheet to arrive at a total number of claims and a settlement rate. The spreadsheets are sent to staff in Strategic Initiatives Branch, Court Services Division at Alberta Justice, who then enter the Calgary and Edmonton successful and unsuccessful mediations into a Microsoft Access database.

GOAL THREE – Provide access to justice services for Albertans in need

KEY MEASURE 1 - **Client Satisfaction with the Services of the Public Trustee's Office**

Methodology. Client satisfaction with the services of the Office of the Public Trustee is assessed using internally conducted client satisfaction surveys. Survey forms are sent to beneficiaries and minors after completion of administration and following payments of the beneficial interest distribution. Surveys are also sent to business partners, parents and guardians of minors and private and public guardians of dependent adults. During 2005-06, 3,167 surveys were sent out, of which 963 surveys were returned, indicating a response rate of 30 per cent. The overall satisfaction rating is generated by using the results of the entire survey rather than using one question as the satisfaction rating.

KEY MEASURE 2 - **Maintenance Enforcement Program: Dollars Due Compared to Dollars Received (Per Cent Collected)**

Methodology. Terms of court orders are entered into the automated Maintenance Information Management System (MIMS). Support payments that are due each month are then calculated by MIMS. Payments received are also entered into the system and calculated by MIMS monthly. Regular dollars due are compared by MIMS to net revenues to determine the percentage of dollars due that are collected. This collection rate is presented monthly to program management as an administrative tool. The data is aggregated into an annual figure to provide the collection rate for the year.

KEY MEASURE 3 - **Client Satisfaction with Legal Aid Services**

Methodology. To gather opinions on legal aid services, Legal Aid Alberta contracted Prairie Research Associates Inc. (PRA) to conduct a telephone survey with legal aid applicants. Legal Aid officers informed applicants about the survey during the interview process and recorded their consent to being contacted for the survey. Only those applicants who gave their consent were contacted by PRA.

Respondents were asked, "Overall, how satisfied were you with the service you received from Legal Aid Alberta when applying for Legal Aid?"

By April 17, 2006, PRA had completed the telephone survey with a total of 501 legal aid applicants, of whom 375 had received legal aid, 105 had been denied coverage, and 21 could not report on the status of their legal aid application. Almost one-third of the sample was incapable of completing the survey because these applicants were either no longer at the telephone number provided or were in detention facilities. The response rate for the survey was just over one-third (35.7 per cent).

In 2004-05, some slight changes were made to the questions used for measurement in the annual report. The survey scale used in 2004-05 and 2005-06 asked respondents to rate their level of satisfaction with the services received (very satisfied, satisfied, neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, dissatisfied, very dissatisfied, not applicable/no response) as opposed to rating the services received (excellent, good, fair, poor, can't recall, no response), which was the scale that was previously used. This previously used scale is reflected in the performance measure description included in the 2005-08 ministry business plan; however, the new scale is used to report the performance measure result in the annual report.

GOAL FOUR – Improve knowledge of, and confidence in, the justice system

KEY MEASURE 1 - **Public Knowledge of the Justice System**

Methodology. As described under Goal 1, Key Measure 1: Public Perception of Safety in the Home.

KEY MEASURE 2 - **Public Confidence in the Justice System**

Methodology. As described under Goal 1, Key Measure 1: Public Perception of Safety in the Home.

GOAL FIVE – Assist government ministries to achieve their objectives through provision of effective legal and related strategic services

KEY MEASURE 1 - Client Satisfaction with Legal Services

Methodology. Client satisfaction with legal services is determined by an internally conducted survey. Alberta Finance's Statistics Unit provided consultancy advice on the survey in 2005-06. A random sample of 1,102 clients was chosen from the total population of 3,242. Out of the 1,102 surveys sent out, 501 responses were received, for a response rate of 45.5 per cent. Based on this response, overall survey results are accurate within +/- 4.0 per cent at the 95 per cent confidence level. Respondents were asked, "How satisfied are you overall with the legal services provided to you by Legal Services Division, Civil Law?" The satisfaction scale provided for this question was comprised of five levels of satisfaction with "1" representing "very dissatisfied" and "5" representing "very satisfied." The survey scale was not altered from the previous year's survey. However, in 2004 the scale was changed from a six-point to a five-point scale to make the survey more consistent with the annual GOA corporate survey and other surveys conducted within the ministry (i.e. Public Trustee's Office), which are also based on a five-point scale.

KEY MEASURE 2 - Client Satisfaction with Assistance in Meeting Corporate Goals

Methodology. Client satisfaction with legal services is determined by an internally conducted survey. Alberta Finance's Statistics Unit provided consultancy advice on the survey in 2005-06. A random sample of 1,102 clients was chosen from the total population of 3,242. Out of the 1,102 surveys sent out, 501 responses were received, for a response rate of 45.5 per cent. Based on this response, overall survey results are accurate within +/- 4.0 per cent at the 95 per cent confidence level. Respondents were asked, "How satisfied are you that the legal services provided to you by Legal Services Division, Civil Law, have helped you achieve your department's corporate goals?" The satisfaction scale provided for this question was comprised of five levels of satisfaction with "1" representing "very dissatisfied" and "5" representing "very satisfied." The survey scale was not altered from the previous year's survey. However, in 2004 the scale was changed from a six-point to a five-point scale to make the survey more consistent with the annual GOA corporate survey and other surveys conducted within the ministry (i.e. Public Trustee's Office), which are also based on a five-point scale.

The *Anti-Terrorism Act* requires the Attorney General of Alberta to publish an annual report on the operation of those parts of the act dealing with investigative hearings and recognizance with conditions.

This constitutes the annual report of the Attorney General of Alberta covering the urth year of operation of the act from December 24, 2004 to December 23, 2005.

Annual Report of the Attorney General of Alberta December 24, 2004 to December 23, 2005

I. Report on the Operation of Sections 83.28 and 83.29 (Investigative Hearing)

For the period from December 24, 2004 to December 23, 2005, the Attorney General of Alberta reports that there were no applications initiated under these sections of the *Criminal Code*. As such, there is no data to report in relation to the reporting requirements under paragraphs 83.31(1)(a) to (c) of the *Criminal Code*.

II. Report on the Operation of Section 83.3 (Recognizance with Conditions)

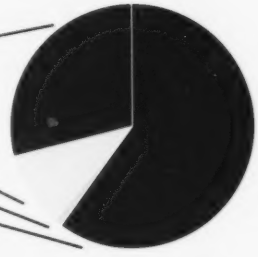
For the period from December 24, 2004 to December 23, 2005, the Attorney General of Alberta reports that there were no cases initiated under this section of the *Criminal Code*. As such, there is no data to report in relation to the reporting requirements in paragraphs 83.31(2)(a) to (f) of the *Criminal Code*.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Operating Results

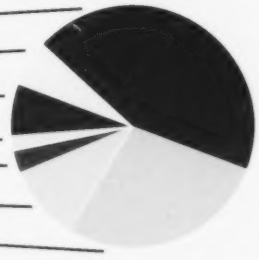
2005-06 Actual Revenue by Source ($129.3 million)

Fees, Permits and Licences	29%	$37.4
Transfers from Government of Canada	10%	$12.9
Investment Income	1%	$0.8
Other Revenue	60%	$78.2



2005-06 Actual Expenses by Program ($302.5 million)

Court Services	44%	$133.0
Ministry Support Services	6%	$17.1
Statutory	7%	$21.9
Medical Examiner	2%	$6.2
Public Trustee	3%	$10.1
Support for Legal Aid	10%	$31.0
Legal Services	28%	$83.2



FINANCIAL ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Operating Results

Ministry revenues of $129.3 million were $1.9 million higher in 2005-06 than the previous year. Annual ministry expenses increased by $19.2 million, consistent with the approved increases to the ministry's base budget. Ministry revenues and expenses are from the Statement of Operations on page 70.

Revenue. Total revenue increased by $1.9 million from the previous year. Increases of $10.4 million for fines and fine late payment penalties, the Maintenance Enforcement Program and the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Recovery Program were offset by decreases in transfers from the Government of Canada related to legal aid by $1.9 million, a $6.0 million decrease resulting from a change in the ministry accounting policy to record Public Trustee fees on an accrual basis, and a $0.7 million decrease in other revenue.

Expenses. Ministry expenses were $11.7 million lower than the approved spending level of $314.2 million. Voted operating expenses were $5.8 million less than the approved budget of $286.3 million and statutory expenses, which include the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program, were $5.9 million lower than the approved budget of $27.8 million.

Comparison of 2005-06 Budget to 2005-06 Actual. Primarily due to a significant reduction in the number of outstanding claims involving uninsured and unknown vehicles, the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program's actual expenses were $7.2 million lower than budgeted. The balance of the variance from budgeted expenses is the result of managing reductions in surplus neutral funding from the Government of Canada for the child-centered family justice initiative, dealing with a shortfall in Maintenance Enforcement Program's dedicated revenue, purchasing videoconferencing equipment from capital funds rather than leasing it, lower than anticipated computer replacement costs, delays in the implementation of a new Public Trustee computer system, and delays in recruiting resources for the expansion of Family Justice Services.

Comparison of 2005-06 Actual to 2004-05 Actual. There was a $19.2 million year-over-year increase in expenses. Alberta Justice has the highest human resources budget of any other ministry in the province; therefore, the ministry is highly sensitive to any pressures on salaries, wages and benefits. In 2005-06 there was a general salary increase, a retroactive increase in salaries, and a large increase in employer contributions to the management pension plan.

A significant amount of the increase in Court Services Division was required for additional judicial and support positions for improving lead times in the Calgary Provincial Court and for implementation of the *Child Youth and Family Enhancement Act*. The increase in Legal Services Division was primarily due to the addition of new positions for enhancements to the maintenance enforcement strategy; for implementation of the *Child, Youth and Enhancement Act*; and for Criminal Justice Division's specialized family violence prosecutions.

The transfer of the Children in Care Program from Alberta Children's Services to the Office of the Public Trustee, and enhancements to the Medical Examiner's Office's toxicology work and increased fees for medical professionals and transport costs also resulted in increases to expenses.

And finally, offsetting these increases was a $5.6 million decrease in expenses for the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program primarily due to a significant reduction from prior years in the number of outstanding claims involving uninsured and unknown vehicles.

Core Business Results - (in thousands)

EXPENSE	2005-06 Budget	2005-06 Actual	2004-05 Actual (Restated)
Core Business			
Prosecutions	$ 45,283	$ 46,304	$ 42,274
Courts	140,016	137,524	125,060
Legal and Strategic Services to Government	27,273	27,819	22,775
Justice Services to Albertans	101,595	90,860	93,208
MINISTRY EXPENSE	$ 314,167	$ 302,507	$ 283,317

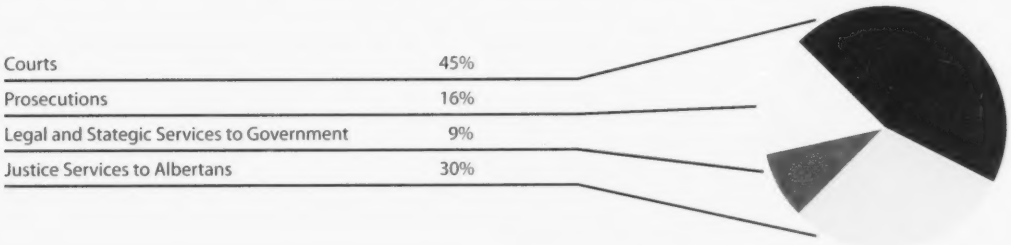
Prosecutions: Includes Criminal Justice Division.

Courts: Includes Calgary Court Operations, Edmonton Court Operations, Regional Court Operations, the Court of Appeal, Justice Online Information Network (JOIN) Operations and the Fines Enforcement Program.

Legal and Strategic Services to Government: Includes Civil Law, Legislative Counsel and Law Reform.

Justice Services to Albertans: Includes Maintenance Enforcement Program, Legal Aid, the Office of the Public Trustee, the Medical Examiner's Office, Child-Centred Family Justice, Aboriginal Court Worker Program, Official Documents and Motor Vehicle Accident Claims.

2005-06 Actual Expenses by Core Business ($302.5 million)



Core Business Results

The presentation of expenses by core business is provided to enable a link of expenses to the ministry's goals. Ministry Support Services expenses have been proportionally allocated to each of the ministry's core businesses.

Comparison of 2005-06 Budget to 2005-06 Actual. Prosecutions expenses of $46.3 million were approximately $1 million higher than the budget of $45.3 million. This moderate variance was primarily due to higher than anticipated salary settlements and an increase in employer contributions to the management pension plan.

Courts expenses of $137.5 million were approximately $2.5 million less than the budget of $140.0 million. Expenses were lower than budgeted primarily due to delays in implementation and expansion of civil mediation and family justice services, managing reduced surplus neutral funding from the Government of Canada for the child-centered family justice initiative, a favourable settlement of the 1998 Justice of the Peace Compensation Commission legal action, and the decision to purchase rather than lease videoconferencing equipment for the courts (this expenditure will be amortized over future years).

Justice Services to Albertans expenses of $90.9 million were $10.7 million less than the budget of $101.6 million. Expenses for the Maintenance Enforcement Program were $2.5 million lower than budgeted. This is due to delays in implementing the dedicated revenue initiative relating to deterrent fees and lower amortization expense for the Maintenance Information Management System. Expenses for the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program were $7.2 million less than budgeted due to a significant reduction in the number of outstanding claims involving uninsured and unknown vehicles as compared to prior years.

Legal and Strategic Services to Government expenses of $27.8 million were $0.5 million higher than the budget of $27.3 million. The bulk of the variance is due to costs associated with the relocation of staff in the Edmonton office.

Comparison of 2005-06 Actual to 2004-05 Actual. Prosecutions expenses increased by $4 million from $42.3 million to $46.3 million. Salary settlements and other employer benefits expenses account for approximately $2 million of this increase. The ministry also added ten positions to enhance its capacity for specialized family violence prosecutions, and added three positions to the Calgary Criminal Court, requiring an additional $1.3 million. The remaining $0.7 million of the increase is related to additional travel, furnishings, and information technology costs, primarily for new positions.

Courts expenses increased by $12.4 million from $125.1 million to $137.5 million. Salaries and benefits expenses were $3.7 million higher than the prior year mainly due to salary settlements and employer benefits cost increases including an increase in employer contributions to the management pension plan. Expenses also increased by over $2.5 million for the Calgary Provincial Court for the appointment of two additional judges in the Calgary Criminal Court; one additional judge in Calgary for the *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act*; six additional judicial clerks to support the new judiciary and two new circuit clerks; for the appointment of one additional judge and two support clerks for the *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act* in the Edmonton Provincial Court; and for additional positions across the province for the expansion of family justice services and implementation of the *Child Youth and Family Enhancement Act*. Other increases were related to information technology sustainability, increased ticket processing, increased witness expenses across the province, an increase in amortization expense related to the acquisition of videoconferencing equipment and other miscellaneous equipment/inventory, and an increase in grants.

Justice Services to Albertans expenses decreased by $2.3 million from $93.2 million to $90.9 million. There was a $5.6 million decrease in expenses for the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Fund primarily due to a significant reduction in the number of outstanding claims involving uninsured and unknown vehicles as compared to prior years. There was also a $0.9 million reduction in the grant to Legal Aid Alberta. These decreases were offset by a $1.1 million increase for the Public Trustee's Office for salary settlements, a one-time only legal settlement, and the transfer of the Children in Care Program from Alberta Children Services; a $0.7 million increase for the Maintenance Enforcement Program related to the implementation of the dedicated revenue initiative in November 2005; $0.6 million for the Medical Examiner related to increases in fees to medical professionals and other staff, and for enhancement to the Medical Examiner's Data Information Centre system, the purchase of replacement furniture, equipment, stockpiling of pandemic flu supplies, and minor repairs and renovations; $0.8 million for development of the new Maintenance Information Management System; and $0.3 million for expansion of Child-Centered Family Justice.

Legal Services to Government expenses increased by $5 million from $22.8 million to $27.8 million. An increase of $2 million was primarily due to the hiring of legal and related staff to handle the increased demands of the *Child, Youth Family Enhancement Act* and client ministry demands. A further $1.5 million of the increase is related to a general salary increase and increases to employer contributions. The remaining increase of $1.5 million was primarily due to costs associated with relocation of employees in the Edmonton office. These costs included the purchase of ergonomic furniture for legal staff.

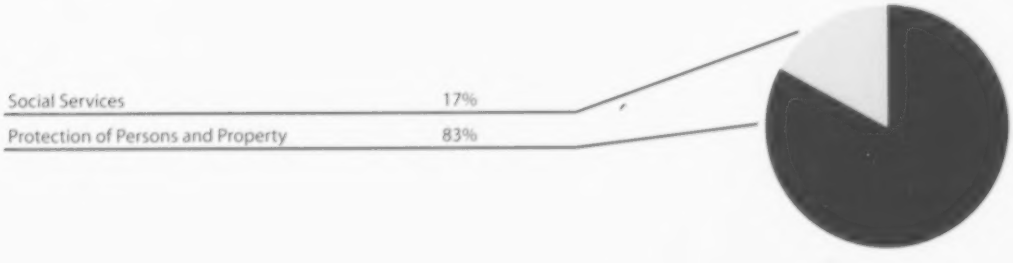
Functional Results - (in thousands)

EXPENSE	2005-06 Budget	2005-06 Actual	2004-05 Actual (Restated)
Function			
Protection of Persons and Property	$ 256,182	$ 251,744	$ 226,007
Social Services	57,985	50,763	57,310
MINISTRY EXPENSE	$ 314,167	$ 302,507	$ 283,317

Protection of Persons and Property: Includes expenses for services provided to ensure the security of persons and property through the courts of law, regulatory measures and other protection of persons and property.

Social Services: Covers actions taken by the government either alone or in cooperation with Albertans, to offset or to forestall situations where the well-being of individuals or families is threatened by circumstances beyond their control. This includes the provision of legal aid and motor vehicle accident claims.

2005-06 Actual Expense By Function ($302.5 million)



Functional Results

Expenses. Protection of Persons and Property expenditures includes Court Services Division, Legal Services Division, Public Trustee's Office, Medical Examiner's Office and Ministry Support Services. Social Services includes legal aid and the statutory appropriation for the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims (MVAC) Program.

Comparison of 2005-06 Budget to 2005-06 Actual. Protection of Persons and Property expenses were $4.5 million less than the budget of $256.2 million. The decrease in salary, wage and employee benefits expenses of $2.6 million and a reduction in computer replacement costs of $1.1 million accounted for most of the difference. The remaining difference is primarily due to the purchase of courts videoconferencing equipment from capital funds rather than leasing the equipment.

Social Services expenses of $50.8 million were $7.2 million less than the budget of $58 million. MVAC program delivery expenses were $2.2 million more than budgeted, offset by a positive variance of $9.4 million for the provision relating to unsettled MVAC claims.

Comparison of 2005-06 Actual to 2004-05 Actual. Expenses for Protection of Persons and Property increased by $25.7 million from $226 million in 2004-05 to $251.7 million in 2005-06. General increases for salary, wage and employee benefits expenses account for $7.6 million of the increase. Other increases include additional resources of $2.7 million to support implementation of the *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act*, $0.8 million to improve lead times in the Calgary Provincial Criminal Court, $1.3 million for additional criminal justice prosecutors, and a significant investment of almost $10 million in the ministry's information technology. The majority of the remaining increase in expenses resulted from increases in ticket processing costs, amortization costs, the relocation of Civil Law employees in Edmonton, and increased fees for medical professionals within the Medical Examiner's Office.

Social Services 2005-06 expenses of $50.8 million for 2005-06 were $6.5 million less than the $57.3 million in the previous year. The grant for legal aid decreased by $0.9 million. Expenditures for MVAC program delivery increased by $2.6 million to $28.7 million, offset by a difference of $8.2 million in the recorded valuation adjustment relating to the recorded liability for outstanding claims.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

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AUDITOR GENERAL
Alberta

Auditor's Report

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly

I have audited the statement of financial position of the Ministry of Justice as at March 31, 2006, and the statements of operations and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Ministry. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Ministry as at March 31, 2006, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Fred J. Dunn FCA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
May 19, 2006

Ministry of Justice
Statement of Operations
Year Ended March 31, 2006

(in thousands)

	2006 Budget (Schedule 4)	2006 Actual	2005 Actual Restated (Note 2c)
Revenues (Schedule 1)			
Transfer from the Government of Canada	$ 13,536	$ 12,837	$ 14,724
Investment Income	425	792	596
Fees, Permits and Licences	36,258	37,431	43,449
Other Revenue	70,101	78,208	68,615
	120,320	129,268	127,384
Expenses – Directly Incurred (Note 2b and Schedule 8)			
Voted (Schedules 3 and 5)			
Ministry Support Services	18,669	17,067	13,859
Court Services	135,551	132,975	123,112
Legal Services	84,422	83,258	73,871
Support for Legal Aid	30,998	30,998	31,898
Public Trustee	10,466	10,106	9,110
Medical Examiner	6,225	6,175	5,764
	286,331	280,579	257,614
Statutory (Schedules 3 and 5)			
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	26,987	28,734	26,186
Valuation Adjustments			
Provision for Doubtful Accounts	200	464	(649)
Provision for Vacation Pay	649	2,151	1,361
Decrease in Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Liabilities	-	(9,421)	(1,195)
	27,836	21,928	25,703
	314,167	302,507	283,317
Net Operating Results	$ (193,847)	$ (173,239)	$ (155,933)

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Ministry of Justice
Statement of Financial Position
March 31, 2006

	(in thousands)	
	2006	2005 Restated (Note 2c)
Assets		
Cash	$ 20,921	$ 20,911
Accounts Receivable (Note 3)	74,944	68,598
Advances	47	49
Tangible Capital Assets (Note 4)	14,981	11,161
	$ 110,893	$ 100,719
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	$ 105,782	$ 109,969
Unearned Revenue	1,199	1,104
	106,981	111,073
Net Assets (Liabilities)		
Net Liabilities at Beginning of Year	(10,354)	(36,993)
Net Operating Results	(173,239)	(155,933)
Net Transfer from General Revenues	187,505	182,572
Net Assets (Liabilities) at End of Year	3,912	(10,354)
	$ 110,893	$ 100,719

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

Ministry of Justice
Statement of Cash Flows
Year Ended March 31, 2006

	(in thousands)	
	2006	2005 Restated (Note 2c)
Operating Transactions		
Net Operating Results	$ (173,239)	$ (155,933)
Non-cash items included in Net Operating Results		
Amortization	2,413	1,523
Valuation Adjustments	(6,806)	(483)
	(177,632)	(154,893)
Increase in Accounts Receivable	(6,810)	(5,203)
Decrease in Advances	2	4
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	3,083	(7,351)
Increase (Decrease) in Unearned Revenue	95	(49)
Cash Applied to Operating Transactions	(181,262)	(167,492)
Capital Transactions		
Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets	(6,168)	(3,020)
Transfer of assets from Solicitor General	(65)	-
Cash Applied to Capital Transactions	(6,233)	(3,020)
Financing Transactions		
Net Transfer from General Revenues	187,505	182,572
Increase in Cash	10	12,060
Cash, Beginning of Year	20,911	8,851
Cash, End of Year	$ 20,921	$ 20,911

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

Note 1 Authority and Purpose

The Ministry of Justice operates under the authority of the *Government Organization Act*, Chapter G-10, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000. The Department of Justice is the sole entity for which the Minister of Justice has been designated as responsible for various acts by the *Government Organization Act* and its regulations.

The Ministry's purpose is to serve Albertans by promoting safe communities, by ensuring access to the courts and other methods of dispute resolution, by providing legal and related strategic services to the Government of Alberta, and by communicating with Albertans about the administration of justice.

Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices

The recommendations of the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants are the primary source for the disclosed basis of accounting. These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the following accounting policies that have been established by government for all departments.

(a) Reporting Entity

The reporting entity is the Ministry of Justice, which consists of the Department of Justice for which the Minister of Justice is accountable. These financial statements include the activities of the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims program (a statutory appropriation).

All departments of the Government of Alberta operate within the General Revenue Fund (the Fund). The Fund is administered by the Minister of Finance. All cash receipts of departments are deposited into the Fund and all cash disbursements made by departments are paid from the Fund. Net transfer from General Revenues is the difference between all cash receipts and all cash disbursements made.

(b) Basis of Financial Reporting

Revenues

All revenues are reported on the accrual method of accounting except for payments on Motor Vehicle Accident Claims judgment debts, which are recorded when received. Cash received for which goods or services have not been provided by year-end is recorded as unearned revenue.

Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (continued)

Dedicated Revenue

Dedicated revenue initiatives provide a basis for authorizing spending. Dedicated revenues are shown as credits or recoveries in the details of the Government Estimates for a supply vote. If actual dedicated revenues are less than budget and total voted expenses are not reduced by an amount sufficient to cover the deficiency in dedicated revenues, the following year's voted expenses are encumbered. If actual dedicated revenues exceed budget, the Department may, with the approval of the Treasury Board, use the excess revenue to fund additional expenses on the program. Schedule 2 discloses information on the Department's dedicated revenue initiatives.

Expenses

Directly Incurred

Directly incurred expenses are those costs the Ministry has primary responsibility and accountability for, as reflected in the Government's budget documents.

In addition to program operating expenses like salaries, supplies, etc., directly incurred expenses also include:

- amortization of tangible capital assets.
- pension costs, which comprise the cost of employer contributions for current service of employees during the year.
- valuation adjustments, which include changes in the valuation allowances used to reflect financial assets at their net recoverable or other appropriate value. Valuation adjustments also represent the change in management's estimate of future payments arising from obligations relating to vacation pay, guarantees and indemnities.

Incurred by Others

Services contributed by other entities in support of the Ministry's operations are disclosed in Schedule 8.

Assets

Financial assets of the Ministry are limited to financial claims, such as advances to and receivables from other organizations, employees and other individuals.

Assets acquired by right are not included. Tangible capital assets of the Ministry are recorded at historical cost and amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The threshold for capitalizing new systems development is $100,000 and the threshold for all other tangible capital assets is $5,000.

Note 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (continued)

Liabilities

Liabilities are recorded to the extent that they present obligations as a result of events and transactions occurring prior to the end of the fiscal year. The settlement of liabilities will result in sacrifice of economic benefits in the future.

Net Assets (Liabilities)

Net assets (liabilities) represent the difference between the carrying value of assets held by the Ministry and its liabilities.

Measurement Uncertainty
(in thousands)

Measurement uncertainty exists when there is a significant variance between the amount recognized in the financial statements and another reasonably possible amount.

Included in accounts receivable, recorded as $74,944 in these financial statements, are fines of $45,370 that are subject to measurement uncertainty. Accounts receivable excludes certain outstanding federal statute and provincial statute fines that are expected to be satisfied by means other than cash payment. The other means include participation in the fine option program or time served in a correctional institution at the option of the person owing the fine. Outstanding fines expected to be satisfied by other means of $5,668 (2005 - $6,276) have been deducted from total outstanding fines. The estimate of $45,730 is based on the actual percentage satisfied in this manner from April 1, 2005 to March 31, 2006. Changes in the proportion of fines satisfied by other means may have a material effect on future operating results.

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities, recorded as $105,782 in these financial statements, is subject to measurement uncertainty. Accrued liabilities includes an estimate of $61,352 (2005 - $70,449) for unsettled claims under the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims program based on a calculated settlement value per claim. Changes to the settlement value may have a material effect on future operating results (Note 7).

Valuation of Financial Assets and Liabilities

Fair value is the amount of consideration agreed upon in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act.

The fair values of cash, accounts receivable, advances, and accounts payable and accrued liabilities are estimated to approximate their carrying values because of the short term nature of these instruments.

(c) Change in Accounting Policy
(in thousands)

Effective April 1, 2005, the Ministry changed its accounting policy for recognizing Public Trustee fees on official guardian and dependent adult accounts. Prior to the 2005-2006 fiscal year, fees were recognized on a cash basis when received because fees were calculated and collected at the end of account administration. Effective April 1, 2005, Public Trustee fees are recorded on an accrual basis for official guardian and dependent adult accounts. For accounts opened after January 1, 2005, fees are calculated and collected in the month of the annual anniversary of the account opening. Fees are accrued for the period from the anniversary date to the balance sheet date. Accounts receivable and Public Trustee fees have been restated to reflect this change.

The change in accounting policy has been applied retroactively. Due to limitations in the accounting system of the Public Trustee, the impact of the change in accounting policy on April 1, 2004 net liabilities cannot be determined. Therefore, the entire adjustment has been recorded in the 2004–2005 year.

The impact of the changes is as follows:

Accounts Receivable at March 31, 2005	
As previously reported	$61,369
Add accrual for Public Trustee fees	7,229
Restated for the year ended March 31, 2005	$68,598
Fees, Permits and Licences Revenue for the year ended March 31, 2005	
As previously reported	$36,220
Add accrual for Public Trustee fees	7,229
Restated for the year ended March 31, 2005	$43,449
Net Assets (Liabilities) at March 31, 2005	
As Previously reported	$(17,583)
Add accrual for Public Trustee fees	7,229
Restated Net Liability as at March 31, 2005	$(10,354)

Note 3 Accounts Receivable
(in thousands)

	2006			2005
	Gross Amount	Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	Net Realizable Value	Net realizable Value Restated (Note 2c)
Goverment of Canada	$ 5,593	$ -	$ 5,593	$ 4,856
Fines - Provincial	15,757	791	14,966	13,885
Fines - Federal	16,923	3,496	13,427	13,262
Ticket Processing	13,050	389	12,661	10,186
Fine Late Payment Penalty	16,296	1,063	15,233	14,507
Other	14,606	1,542	13,064	11,902
	$ 82,225	$ 7,281	$ 74,944	$ 68,598

Accounts receivable are unsecured and non-interest bearing.

Note 4 Tangible Capital Assets
(in thousands)

		2006			2005
	Estimated Useful Life	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
Equipment	10 Years	$ 7,703	$ 3,752	$ 3,951	$ 1,971
Computer Hardware and Software	5 - 10 Years	20,432	9,402	11,030	9,190
Total		$ 28,135	$ 13,154	$ 14,981	$ 11,161

Note 5 Contractual Obligations
(in thousands)

	2006	2005
Service contracts	$7,730	$5,607
Operating leases	245	280
	$7,975	$5,887

The aggregate amounts payable for the unexpired terms of these contractual obligations are as follows:

	Service Contracts	Operating Leases	Total
2007	$4,674	$115	$4,789
2008	526	79	605
2009	2,422	46	2,468
2010, or thereafter	108	5	113
	$7,730	$245	$7,975

Note 6 Contingent Liabilities
(in thousands)

At March 31, 2006, the Ministry is a defendant in forty-six legal claims (2005 - thirty three legal claims). Thirty-eight of these claims have specified amounts totaling $1,183,782 and the remaining eight have no specified amount (2005 – twenty eight claims with a specified amount of $239,090 and five with no specified amount). Included in the total legal claims are seven claims amounting to $924,320 (2005 - three claims amounting to $8,320) in which the Ministry has been jointly named with other entities. Forty-one claims amounting to $1,170,671 (2005 – twenty three claims totaling $234,052) are covered by the Alberta Risk Management Fund.

The resulting loss, if any, from these claims cannot be determined.

Within the provision of the *Public Trustee Act* the Office of the Public Trustee remits unclaimed estate monies, which is reported as general revenue of the Department. If entitled beneficiaries are subsequently located, previously unclaimed estate monies are returned to the Office of the Public Trustee for distribution to the beneficiaries.

Note 7 Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program
(in thousands)

Personal Injury Settlements

The Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Program is a publicly administered program that pays for judgments arising from motor vehicle accidents involving uninsured or unidentified vehicles in Alberta. The program operates under the authority of the *Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act*. At March 31, 2006, there were one thousand eight hundred and twelve (2005 - two thousand and six) unsettled motor vehicle accident claims under this program amounting to $209,918 (2005 $262,100). Of the unsettled claims, it was estimated that approximately $61,352 (2005 - $70,449) may arise from court ordered judgments and has been recorded as a liability.

The *Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act* states that in order for claimants involved in motor vehicle accidents with uninsured or unidentified vehicles to be entitled to compensation, the Minister of Justice must receive a court judgment. In accordance with the Act, liabilities for personal injury claims are accrued when a court ordered judgment is received. Liabilities for motor vehicle accident claims amounting to $1,073 at March 31, 2006 (2005 - $253) are included in the total claim expenditures of $28,734 (2005 - $26,186).

Supplementary Medical and Rehabilitation Expenses

The estimated liability for supplementary medical and rehabilitation expenses on approved applications filed up to March 31, 2006, is $6,313 (2005 - $6,637) and has been recorded as a liability. As at March 31, 2006, the maximum amount that may be payable to or on behalf of entitled applicants pursuant to the limits set in Section 17 of the *Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Act* was approximately $16,892 (2005 - $19,924).

Note 8 Trust Funds Under Administration
(in thousands)

The Ministry administers trust funds that are regulated funds consisting of public money over which the Legislature has no power of appropriation. Because the Province has no equity in the funds and administers them for the purpose of various trusts, they are not included in the Ministry's financial statements.

Note 8 Trust Funds Under Administration (continued)
(in thousands)

As at March 31, 2006, the amount of trust assets under administration net of trust liabilities was as follows:

	2006	Restated 2005
Public Trustee – Trust Funds (a)	$ 426,724	$ 422,373
Various Court Offices (c)	58,129	61,718
Maintenance Enforcement (d)	7,426	5,952
Solicitors Trust	239	172
	492,518	490,215
Public Trustee – Other Estate Assets (b)	53,767	58,563
	$ 546,285	$ 548,778

(a) The Office of the Public Trustee administers the estates of decedents, dependent adults and minors. Trust fund receipts and income adjustments exceeded trust fund disbursements in 2005-2006 by $4,351 (2005 - $6,393). The major sources of receipts and income include pensions and similar receipts; investment income; and acquisition and sale of client estates. Significant disbursements include beneficiary distributions; client care and maintenance payments; release of client assets; and fees and taxes paid on behalf of clients.

(b) In addition, the Office of the Public Trustee administers other estate assets consisting of client owned securities and investments, real estate holdings, accounts receivable, and personal property and other assets totaling $68,780 as at March 31, 2006 (2005 restated - $73,358). These assets are valued at fair value at the date the office obtains custody or nominal value when fair value is not readily determinable. Client liabilities as at March 31, 2006 of $15,013 (2005 restated - $14,795), are comprised of accounts, mortgages and notes payable, and are recorded at nominal value where actual value is not readily determinable.

(c) The court offices receive and disburse payments for fines, bail and other payments involving civil litigants. Total court trust disbursements exceeded total trust fund receipts in 2005-2006 by $3,589 (2005 – receipts exceeded disbursements by $15,808).

(d) The Maintenance Enforcement Program receives and disburses court ordered maintenance and child support. Total trust receipts exceeded total trust fund disbursements in 2005-2006 by $1,474 (2005 - $746).

Note 9 Payments Under Agreement
(in thousands)

The Ministry has entered into agreements to deliver programs and services that are fully funded by the Government of Canada and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Costs incurred under these agreements are made by the Ministry under the authority of the *Financial Administration Act*, Section 25. Accounts receivable includes $24 (2005 - $118) from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and $10 (2005 - $40) from the Government of Canada.

The agreement with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police is for cost recovery on toxicology casework done by the Medical Examiners Office. The agreement with Justice Canada is for victims' awareness training.

Amounts paid under agreements with program sponsors are as follows:

	2006	2005
Government of Canada – Victims Awareness Training	$ 10	$ 40
Royal Canadian Mounted Police – Toxicology Casework	230	135
	$ 240	$ 175

Note 10 Defined Benefit Plans
(in thousands)

The Ministry participates in the multi-employer pension plans, Management Employees Pension Plan and Public Service Pension Plan. The Ministry also participates in the multi-employer Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers. The expense for these pension plans is equivalent to the annual contributions of $14,099 for the year ended March 31, 2006 (2005 - $10,700).

At December 31, 2005, the Management Employees Pension Plan reported a deficiency of $165,895 (2004 - $268,101) and the Public Service Pension Plan reported a deficiency of $187,704 (2004- $450,068). At December 31, 2005, the Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers had an actuarial surplus of $10,018 (2004 - $9,404).

The Ministry participates in the Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers Pension Plan. The expenses for this pension plan are $7,815 for the year ended March 31, 2006 (2005 - $8,559).

Note 10 Defined Benefit Plans (continued)
(in thousands)

The Ministry also participates in two multi-employer Long Term Disability Income Continuance Plans. At March 31, 2006, the Bargaining Unit Plan reported an actuarial deficiency of $8,699 (2005 - $11,817) and the Management, Opted Out and Excluded Plan an actuarial surplus of $8,309 (2005 - $3,208). The expense for these two plans is limited to employer's annual contributions for the year.

Note 11 Comparative Figures

Certain 2005 figures have been reclassified to conform to the 2006 presentation.

Note 12 Approval of Financial Statements

The financial statements were approved by the Senior Financial Officer and the Deputy Minister of Justice.

Ministry of Justice **Schedule 1**
Schedule to Financial Statements
Revenues
Year Ended March 31, 2006

(in thousands)

	2006		2005
	Budget	Actual	Actual Restated (Note 2c)
Transfer from the Government of Canada			
Legal Aid	$ 10,631	$ 10,468	$ 11,986
Other	2,905	2,369	2,738
	13,536	12,837	14,724
Investment Income - Bank Interest	425	792	596
Fees, Permits and Licences			
Court Fees	15,615	14,833	15,238
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims (MVAC)	14,500	16,313	15,427
Public Trustee Fees	5,582	5,717	12,252
Other	561	568	532
	36,258	37,431	43,449
Other Revenue			
Fines	41,400	45,781	40,747
Maintenance Enforcement Program	11,329	10,352	7,435
Fines - Late Payment Penalty	12,200	13,471	13,133
MVAC Recoveries	3,500	6,800	4,644
Refunds of Expenditure	15	42	414
Miscellaneous	1,657	1,762	2,242
	70,101	78,208	68,615
	$ 120,320	$ 129,268	$ 127,384

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Dedicated Revenue Initiatives
Year Ended March 31, 2006

Schedule 2

(in thousands)

	2006		
	Authorized Dedicated Revenues	Actual Dedicated Revenues	(Shortfall) / Excess
Ticket Processing	$ 21,000	$ 22,150	$ 1,150
Provincial Civil Claims	1,300	861	(439)
Maintenance Enforcement	2,251	1,180	(1,071)
	$ 24,551	$ 24,191	(1) $ (360)

(1) Shortfall is deducted from current year's authorized budget, as disclosed in Schedules 4 and 5 to the financial statements.

Ticket Processing revenues represent the Province's share of ticket revenue designated towards all expenditures in Court Services, Criminal Justice and Strategic Services incurred in the processing and handling of violation tickets.

Provincial Civil Claims revenues represent amounts received from the public for filing civil claims in excess of seven thousand five hundred dollars in Provincial Court. These revenues are dedicated towards the costs of processing these claims.

Maintenance Enforcement revenues represent deterrent penalties and service fees to promote timely payment of maintenance to improve and expand services available for clients.

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Expenses – Directly Incurred Detailed by Object
Year Ended March 31, 2006

Schedule 3

(in thousands)

	2006		2005
	Budget	Actual	Actual
Voted			
Salaries, Wages and Employee Benefits (a)	$ 193,705	$ 191,107	$ 173,752
Supplies and Services (a)	58,408	54,729	49,419
Grants	31,751	32,041	32,637
Financial Transactions and Other	240	290	283
Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets	2,227	2,412	1,523
Total Voted Expenses	$ 286,331	$ 280,579	$ 257,614
Statutory			
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$ 26,987	$ 28,734	$ 26,186

(a) Salaries, wages and employee benefits and supplies and services expenses for Strategic Services programs are shared with the Ministry of the Solicitor General, which contributes its own share of expenses. Only the Ministry of Justice portion is disclosed in this Schedule.

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Budget
Year Ended March 31, 2006

Schedule 4

(in thousands)

	2005-2006 Estimates	Adjustment (a)	2005-2006 Budget	Voted Supplementary (b)	2005-2006 Authorized Budget
Revenues:					
Transfer from the Government of Canada	$ 13,536	$ -	$ 13,536	$ -	$ 13,536
Investment Income	425	-	425	-	425
Fees, Permits and Licences	36,258	-	36,258	-	36,258
Other Revenue	70,101	-	70,101	-	70,101
	120,320	-	120,320	-	120,320
Expenses - Directly Incurred:					
Voted:					
Ministry Support Services	18,669	-	18,669	218	18,887
Court Services	135,551	-	135,551	363	135,914
Legal Services	84,422	-	84,422	1,995	86,417
Support for Legal Aid	30,998	-	30,998	-	30,998
Public Trustee	10,466	-	10,466	1,093	11,559
Medical Examiner	6,225	-	6,225	51	6,276
Dedicated Revenue Shortfall	-	(360)	(360)	-	(360)
	286,331	(360)	285,971	3,720	289,691
Statutory:					
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	26,987	-	26,987	-	26,987
Valuation Adjustments					
Provision for Doubtful Accounts	200	-	200	-	200
Provision for Vacation Pay	649	-	649	-	649
	27,836	-	27,836	-	27,836
Total Expenses	314,167	(360)	313,807	3,720	317,527
Net Operating Results	$ (193,847)	$ 360	$ (193,487)	$ (3,720)	$ (197,207)
Equipment/Inventory Purchases	$ 1,200	$ -	$ 1,200	$ -	$ 1,200

(a) Adjustment made for shortfall of dedicated revenue initiatives of $360 (Schedule 2).

(b) Supplementary Estimates were approved on March 16, 2006.

Ministry of Justice **Schedule 5**

Schedule to Financial Statements

Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investment and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget

Year Ended March 31, 2006

(in thousands)

Program		2005-2006 Estimates	Adjustments (a)	2005-2006 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (b)	2005-2006 Authorized Budget	2005-2006 Actual (c)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
1	Ministry Support Services	$ 18,669	$ -	$ 18,669	$ 218	$ 18,887	$ 18,115	$ 772
2	Court Services	135,551	-	135,551	363	135,914	136,800	(886)
3	Legal Services	84,922	-	84,922	1,995	86,917	84,144	2,773
4	Support for Legal Aid	30,998	-	30,998	-	30,998	30,998	-
5	Public Trustee	11,166	-	11,166	1,093	12,259	10,106	2,153
6	Medical Examiner	6,225	-	6,225	51	6,276	6,584	(308)
	Dedicated Revenue Shortfall (Schedule 2)	-	(360)	(360)	-	(360)	-	(360)
		$ 287,531	$ (360)	$ 287,171	$ 3,720	$ 290,891	$ 286,747	$ 4,144
	STATUTORY EXPENSES							
	Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$ 26,987	$ -	$ 26,987	$ -	$ 26,987	$ 28,734	$ (1,747)
	Valuation Adjustments	849	-	849	-	849	(6,806)	7,655
		$ 27,836	$ -	$ 27,836	$ -	$ 27,836	$ 21,928	$ 5,908

(a) Adjustment made for shortfall of dedicated revenue initiatives of $360 (Schedule 2).

(b) Supplementary Estimates were approved on March 16, 2006.

(c) Includes achievement bonus amounting to $4,307.

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investment and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget
Year Ended March 31, 2006

Schedule 5 (continued)

(in thousands)

	Program	2005-2006 Estimates	Adjustments (a)	2005-2006 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (b)	2005-2006 Authorized Budget	2005-2006 Actual (c)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
1.0.1	Minister's Office	$ 439	$ -	$ 439	$ 39	$ 478	$ 470	$ 8
1.0.2	Deputy Minister's Office	455	-	455	51	506	575	(69)
1.0.3	Communications	366	-	366	-	366	432	(66)
1.0.4	Strategic Services							
	-Operating Expense	9,421	-	9,421	-	9,421	9,180	241
	-Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	53	(53)
1.0.5	Human Resources	1,949	-	1,949	95	2,044	2,410	(366)
1.0.6	Management Information Services							
	-Operating Expense	5,044	-	5,044	-	5,044	3,015	2,029
	-Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	995	(995)
1.0.7	Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets	524	-	524	-	524	504	20
1.0.8	Standing Policy Committee on Justice and Government Services	100	-	100	-	100	93	7
1.0.9	Policy Secretariat	371	-	371	33	404	388	16
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 18,669	$ -	$ 18,669	$ 218	$ 18,887	$ 18,115	$ 772

Ministry of Justice **Schedule 5 (continued)**

Schedule to Financial Statements

Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investment and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget

Year Ended March 31, 2006

(in thousands)

	Program	2005-2006 Estimates	Adjustments (a)	2005-2006 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (b)	2005-2006 Authorized Budget	2005-2006 Actual (c)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
2.1	**Program Support**							
2.1.1	Program Support Services							
	- Operating Expense	$ 14,383	$ -	$ 14,383	$ 101	$ 14,484	$ 12,162	$ 2,322
	- Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	3,759	(3,759)
2.1.2	Chief Provincial Judge's Office	2,030	-	2,030	9	2,039	2,446	(407)
2.1.3	Law Libraries	3,750	-	3,750	11	3,761	3,983	(222)
2.1.4	Ticket Processing	21,000	-	21,000	-	21,000	21,932	(932)
2.1.5	Provincial Civil Claims	1,300	-	1,300	-	1,300	1,433	(133)
2.1.6	Child Centred Family Justice	1,896	-	1,896	-	1,896	1,647	249
2.1.7	Aboriginal Court Worker Program	3,234	-	3,234	89	3,323	3,318	5
2.1.8	Amortization of Captial Assets	222	-	222	-	222	957	(735)
	Total Sub-program	47,815	-	47,815	210	48,025	51,637	(3,612)
2.2	**Calgary Court Operations**							
2.2.1	Calgary Court of Queen's Bench	7,613	-	7,613	16	7,629	7,597	32
2.2.2	Calgary Provincial Courts	19,263	-	19,263	10	19,273	18,799	474
2.2.3	Calgary Family Mediation Services	1,142	-	1,142	-	1,142	1,028	114
2.2.4	Calgary Operations Support	1,327	-	1,327	24	1,351	1,562	(211)
	Total Sub-program	29,345	-	29,345	50	29,395	28,986	409
2.3	**Edmonton Court Operations**							
2.3.1	Edmonton Court of Queen's Bench	8,646	-	8,646	15	8,661	8,586	75
2.3.2	Edmonton Provincial Courts	17,430	-	17,430	11	17,441	16,570	871
2.3.3	Edmonton Family Mediation Services							
	- Operating Expense	1,426	-	1,426	-	1,426	1,385	41
	- Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	14	(14)
2.3.4	Edmonton Operations Support							
	- Operating Expense	1,696	-	1,696	19	1,715	1,786	(71)
	- Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	37	(37)
2.3.5	Board of Review	240	-	240	-	240	244	(4)
	Total Sub-program	29,438	-	29,438	45	29,483	28,622	861

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investment and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget
Year Ended March 31, 2006

Schedule 5 (continued)

(in thousands)

	Program	2005-2006 Estimates	Adjustments (a)	2005-2006 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (b)	2005-2006 Authorized Budget	2005-2006 Actual (c)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
2.4	**Regional Court Operations**							
2.4.1	Lethbridge Courts							
	- Operating Expenses	$ 4,012	$ -	$ 4,012	$ -	$ 4,012	$ 3,642	$ 370
	- Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	10	(10)
2.4.2	Red Deer Courts	3,823	-	3,823	-	3,823	3,322	501
2.4.3	Grande Prairie Courts	1,450	-	1,450	8	1,458	1,227	231
2.4.4	Peace River Courts	1,181	-	1,181	-	1,181	1,584	(403)
2.4.5	Wetaskiwin Courts	1,096	-	1,096	-	1,096	1,129	(33)
2.4.6	Fort McMurray Courts	770	-	770	-	770	919	(149)
2.4.7	St. Paul Courts	1,735	-	1,735	9	1,744	1,799	(55)
2.4.8	Drumheller Courts	345	-	345	-	345	419	(74)
2.4.9	Medicine Hat Courts	1,519	-	1,519	-	1,519	1,497	22
2.4.10	Regional Provincial Courts							
	- Operating Expenses	6,792	-	6,792	-	6,792	6,772	20
	- Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	6	(6)
2.4.11	Regional Family Mediation Services	1,624	-	1,624	-	1,624	753	871
2.4.12	Regional Operations Support	961	-	961	26	987	939	48
	Total Sub-program	25,308	-	25,308	43	25,351	24,018	1,333
2.5	**Court of Appeal**							
2.5.1	Court of Appeal	3,645	-	3,645	15	3,660	3,537	123
	Total Sub-program	3,645	-	3,645	15	3,660	3,537	123
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 135,551	$ -	$ 135,551	$ 363	$ 135,914	$ 136,800	$ (886)

Ministry of Justice **Schedule 5 (continued)**

Schedule to Financial Statements

Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investment and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget

Year Ended March 31, 2006

(in thousands)

	Program	2005-2006 Estimates	Adjustments (a)	2005-2006 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (b)	2005-2006 Authorized Budget	2005-2006 Actual (c)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
3.0.1	Law Reform	$ 400	$ -	$ 400	$ -	$ 400	$ 400	$ -
3.0.2	Legislative Counsel	1,868	-	1,868	42	1,910	1,976	(66)
3.0.3	Civil Law							
	- Operating Expenses	23,710	-	23,710	662	24,372	23,934	438
	- Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	42	(42)
3.0.4	Criminal Justice							
	- Operating Expenses	43,133	-	43,133	1,188	44,321	44,153	168
	- Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	16	(16)
3.0.5	Maintenance Enforcement							
	- Operating Expenses	13,954	-	13,954	103	14,057	12,022	2,035
	- Equipment/Inventory Purchases	500	-	500	-	500	828	(328)
3.0.6	Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets	1,357	-	1,357	-	1,357	773	584
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 84,922	$ -	$ 84,922	$ 1,995	$ 86,917	$ 84,144	$ 2,773

(in thousands)

	Program	2005-2006 Estimates	Adjustments (a)	2005-2006 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (b)	2005-2006 Authorized Budget	2005-2006 Actual (c)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
4.0.1	Legal Aid Plan	$ 30,998	$ -	$ 30,998	$ -	$ 30,998	$ 30,998	$ -

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investment and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget
Year Ended March 31, 2006

Schedule 5 (continued)

(in thousands)

	Program	2005-2006 Estimates	Adjustments (a)	2005-2006 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (b)	2005-2006 Authorized Budget	2005-2006 Actual (c)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
5.0.1	Public Trustee							
	- Operating Expenses	$ 10,466	$ -	$ 10,466	$ 1,093	$ 11,559	$ 10,106	$ 1,453
	- Equipment/Inventory Purchases	700	-	700	-	700	-	700
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 11,166	$ -	$ 11,166	$ 1,093	$ 12,259	$ 10,106	$ 2,153

(in thousands)

	Program	2005-2006 Estimates	Adjustments (a)	2005-2006 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (b)	2005-2006 Authorized Budget	2005-2006 Actual (c)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
6.0.1	Medical Examiner							
	- Operating Expenses	$ 6,132	$ -	$ 6,132	$ 51	$ 6,183	$ 5,998	$ 185
	- Equipment/Inventory Purchases	-	-	-	-	-	409	(409)
6.0.2	Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets	93	-	93	-	93	177	(84)
TOTAL PROGRAM		$ 6,225	$ -	$ 6,225	$ 51	$ 6,276	$ 6,584	$ (308)

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Comparison of Expenses – Directly Incurred, Equipment/Inventory Purchases and Capital Investment and Statutory Expenses by Element to Authorized Budget
Year Ended March 31, 2006

Schedule 5 (continued)

(in thousands)

	2005-2006 Estimates	Adjustments (a)	2005-2006 Budget	Authorized Supplementary (b)	2005-2006 Authorized Budget	2005-2006 Actual (c)	Unexpended (Over Expended)
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$ 26,987	$ -	$ 26,987	$ -	$ 26,987	$ 28,734	$ (1,747)
Valuation Adjustments	849	-	849	-	849	(6,806)	7,655
	$ 27,836	$ -	$ 27,836	$ -	$ 27,836	$ 21,928	$ 5,908

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Salary and Benefits Disclosure
Year Ended March 31, 2006

Schedule 6

	2006				2005
	Base Salary[1]	Other Cash Benefits[2]	Other Non Cash Benefits[3]	Total	Total
Deputy Minister[4]	$ 204,952	$ 44,000	$ 52,861	$ 301,813	$ 255,655
Assistant Deputy Minister, Legal Services[5]	174,580	18,649	23,291	216,520	196,018
Assistant Deputy Minister, Court Services	148,096	27,839	31,658	207,593	176,386
Assistant Deputy Minister, Criminal Justice	152,388	28,662	34,793	215,843	196,434
Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Services	152,996	-	32,590	185,586	190,697
Executive Director, Human Resources	139,710	27,839	31,694	199,243	162,249

Prepared in accordance with Treasury Board Directive 03/2004.

Total salary and benefits relating to a position are disclosed.

(1) Base salary includes regular base pay.

(2) Other cash benefits includes bonuses, vacation payouts, overtime and lump sum payments.

(3) Other non-cash benefits include the government's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including pension, health care, dental coverage, group life insurance, short and long term disability plans, professional memberships and tuition fees.

(4) Automobile provided, no dollar amount included in benefits and allowances.

(5) The position was occupied by three individuals through the year.

Ministry of Justice **Schedule 7**
Schedule to Financial Statements
Related Party Transactions
Year Ended March 31, 2006
(in thousands)

Related parties are those entities consolidated or accounted for on a modified equity basis in the Province of Alberta's financial statements. Related parties also include management in the Ministry.

The Ministry and its employees paid or collected certain taxes and fees set by regulation for permits, licences and other charges. These amounts were incurred in the normal course of business, reflect charges applicable to all users, and have been excluded from this Schedule.

The Ministry had the following transactions with related parties recorded on the Statement of Operations and the Statement of Financial Position at the amount of consideration agreed upon between the related parties:

	Other Entities	
	2006	2005
Expenses – Directly Incurred		
Restructuring and Government Efficiency	$ 11,428	$ 11,448
Information Technology	642	677
Office of the Chief Internal Auditor	23	49
Vehicles (EVO/CVO)	17	17
Air Transportation	4	-
Parking	2	1
	$ 12,116	$ 12,192

The Ministry also had the following transactions with related parties for which no consideration was exchanged. The amounts for these related party transactions are estimated based on the costs incurred by the service provider to provide the service. These amounts are not recorded in the financial statements.

	Other Entities		Entities in the Ministry	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
Revenues – Legal Services	$20,481	$16,278	$4,902	$4,291
Expenses – Indirectly Incurred				
Accommodation	$35,273	$37,542	$ -	$ -
Legal Services	-	-	4,902	4,291
Other Services	35	7	-	-
	$35,308	$37,549	$4,902	$4,291

Ministry of Justice
Schedule to Financial Statements
Allocated Costs
Year Ended March 31, 2006
(in thousands)

Schedule 8

	2006						2005
		Expenses – Incurred by Others		Valuation Adjustments (4)			
Program	Expenses (1)	Accommodation Costs (2)	Legal Services (3)	Vacation Pay	Doubtful Accounts	Expenses	Expenses
Voted:							
Ministry Support Services	$ 17,061	$ 921	$ 2,472	$ 200	$ -	$ 20,654	$ 16,771
Court Services	132,981	28,873	306	1,320	21	163,501	153,691
Legal Services	83,258	3,174	(4,027)	452	-	82,857	74,777
Support for Legal Aid	30,998	27	-	-	-	31,025	31,999
Public Trustee	10,106	1,117	309	72	-	11,604	10,464
Medical Examiner	6,175	983	402	98	-	7,658	6,963
	280,579	35,095	(538)	2,142	21	317,299	294,665
Statutory:							
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	28,734	178	538	9	443	29,902	27,389
	$ 309,313	$ 35,273	$ -	$ 2,151	$ 464	$ 347,201	$ 322,054

(1) Expenses - Directly Incurred as per Statement of Operations, excluding valuation adjustments. ($302,507 plus [9,421-2,151-464] = $309,313)
(2) Costs for Accomodation (includes grants in lieu of taxes) on Schedule 7, allocated by square footage.
(3) Cost shown for Legal Services on Schedule 7, estimated costs incurred by each program.
(4) Valuation Adjustments as per Statedment of Operations. Employee Benefits and Doubtful Accounts were allocated as follows:

- Vacation Pay -- allocated to the program by employee,
- Doubtful Accounts Provision -- estimated allocation to program.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS UNAUDITED

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Other Financial Information

Statement Of Remissions, Compromises And Write-offs For The Year Ended March 31, 2006

The following statement of compromises and write-offs has been prepared pursuant to Section 23 of the *Financial Administration Act*. The statement includes all compromises and write-offs of the Ministry of Justice made or approved during the fiscal year.

		$ (000)
Remissions:	$	-
Compromises:		
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$	14
Maintenance Enforcement Program		4
	$	18
Write-offs:		
Motor Vehicle Accident Claims	$	1,283
Fines		3,144
Late Payment Penalties		944
Abandoned and Seized Vehicles		84
Maintenance Enforcement Program		624
	$	6,079
Total Remissions, Compromises and Write-offs	$	6,097

Civil Law Legal Services Delivery - Current And Prior Year Comparison

Staff Providing Services

Civil Law provides legal and related strategic services to all government ministries. Civil Law maintains a time keeping system to enable its lawyers, paralegals and articling students to record and report the hours of legal services provided in total to each Ministry and their respective programs. In 2005/06, 175 lawyers, paralegals and articling students recorded in excess of 210,000 hours of provided legal services and in 2004/05 160 such staff recorded more than 183,000 hours. The total hours of service to each Ministry is used as the basis to allocate legal services costs.

Cost of Legal Services

The costing methodology to estimate the costs for providing legal services for allocation to all client ministries includes the total cost of Civil Law less expenditures on contracted services and grants to third parties. A proportionate amount for support services provided by Strategic Services and Human Resource Services is included in the estimate. The estimate includes accommodation costs for office space in government owned or leased buildings as paid by and reported by the Ministry of Infrastructure, and also includes all or part of salary and benefit costs for lawyers paid directly by client ministries. The estimated costs are allocated to each department based on the hours of service received. Justice, as a service provider, sends the legal services cost information to each Ministry for disclosure in the Related Party Transactions Schedule and the Allocated Costs Schedule to the financial statements of each ministry's annual report.

Client Satisfaction Rate

The percentage of clients who were more than "satisfied" to "very satisfied" with the legal services provided was 93 percent in 2005/06 and 90 percent in 2004/05. This performance measure is fully described under Goal 5 in this annual report.

Current and Prior Year Comparison

The table below summarizes the estimated cost of allocated legal services, the number of hours allocated, the average hourly cost and the client satisfaction rate.

Cost Estimates	2005/06	2004/05
Total Civil Law Costs	$23,934,371	$19,494,744
Deduct Contract Services & Grants	443,252	280,068
	$23,491,119	$19,214,676
Add Support Services	1,059,703	599,880
Accommodation	832,330	754,621
Client Cost for Lawyers	3,188,282	3,284,815
Total Legal Services Costs for Allocation	$28,571,434	$23,853,992
Number of Hours of Service Provided	210,115.7	183,825.8
Average Hourly Cost	$135.98	$129.76
Client Satisfaction Rate	93%	90%

Fine Activity and Violation Ticket Activity Information

Fine Activity Information

Federal and Provincial Statute Offences and Municipal Bylaw Offences

A management information report summarizes fine activity by the recipients entitled to the fine or penalty. The municipalities receive specific provincial statute offence fines and all municipal bylaw fines for offences occurring within municipal boundaries. The majority of municipal fine activity occurs in cities, towns, counties and municipal districts. The Alberta government receives fines for provincial statute offences occurring on primary highways and other specific provincial statute offences. The Alberta government receives any late payment penalties on overdue fines and some fines under the *Criminal Code of Canada* and retains 16 2/3% of *Traffic Safety Act* fines. The Victims of Crime Fund, administered by Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security, receives a 15 per cent surcharge on all provincial statute fines and a surcharge on selective federal statute offences. These surcharge revenues are used to fund victims programs in Alberta. The federal government receives fines for federal statute offences and selective fines under the *Criminal Code*.

The tables below summarize fines imposed, fine payments and uncollectible fines for the 12 months from April 2005 to March 2006 and for the 12 months from April 2004 to March 2005, by the recipient level of government. The final two tables summarize outstanding fines at March 31, 2006 and March 31, 2005, by the recipient level of government.

Fines Imposed – April 2005 to March 2006

Recipient	Number of Fines Imposed	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Fines Imposed	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	1,096,248	29.5%	$106,095,415	53.0%
Alberta Government	140,980	3.8%	30,306,540	15.1%
Victims of Crime Fund	1,028,390	27.6%	22,099,836	11.0%
Federal Government	1,592	0.0%	3,327,684	1.7%
Late Payment Penalty	473,250	12.7%	12,709,211	6.4%
Fine Retention	981,623	26.4%	25,563,826	12.8%
Total	3,722,083	100.0%	$200,102,512	100.0%

Fines Imposed – April 2004 to March 2005

Recipient	Number of Fines Imposed	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Fines Imposed	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	1,051,619	29.5%	$101,353,522	53.5%
Alberta Government	132,145	3.7%	27,660,722	14.6%
Victims of Crime Fund	981,929	27.6%	20,931,153	11.1%
Federal Government	1,570	0.0%	3,152,154	1.7%
Late Payment Penalty	458,043	12.9%	12,194,449	6.4%
Fine Retention	937,034	26.3%	24,116,099	12.7%
Total	3,562,340	100.0%	$189,408,099	100.0%

Fine Payments – April 2005 to March 2006

Recipient	Number of Fine Payments	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Fine Payments	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	1,056,478	29.3%	$ 94,009,793	53.9%
Alberta Government	132,451	3.7%	23,486,404	13.5%
Victims of Crime Fund	986,233	27.4%	19,015,433	10.9%
Federal Government	1,983	0.1%	3,506,665	2.0%
Late Payment Penalty	486,180	13.5%	12,513,405	7.2%
Fine Retention	936,299	26.0%	21,830,204	12.5%
Total	3,599,624	100.0%	$174,361,904	100.0%

Fine Payments – April 2004 to March 2005

Recipient	Number of Fine Payments	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Fine Payments	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	1,016,717	29.6%	$ 87,598,044	55.4%
Alberta Government	120,012	3.6%	20,269,555	12.8%
Victims of Crime Fund	947,432	27.6%	17,422,467	11.0%
Federal Government	1,516	0.0%	2,000,685	1.3%
Late Payment Penalty	459,842	13.4%	11,429,628	7.2%
Fine Retention	887,026	25.8%	19,529,259	12.3%
Total	3,432,545	100.0%	$158,249,638	100.0%

Uncollectible Fines – April 2005 to March 2006

Recipient	Number of Uncollectible Fines	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Uncollectible Fines	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	41,094	38.9%	$ 4,479,014	48.8%
Alberta Government	13,350	12.6%	3,143,461	34.2%
Victims of Crime Fund	7,100	6.7%	366,688	4.0%
Federal Government	336	0.3%	252,418	2.7%
Late Payment Penalty	43,789	41.5%	944,427	10.3%
Fine Retention	not available		not available	
Total	105,669	100.0%	$ 9,186,008	100.0%

Uncollectible Fines – April 2004 to March 2005

Recipient	Number of Uncollectible Fines	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Uncollectible Fines	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	30,257	40.9%	$ 3,586,184	49.2%
Alberta Government	9,803	13.2%	2,853,301	39.1%
Victims of Crime Fund	4,667	6.3%	191,979	2.6%
Federal Government	75	0.1%	33,111	0.5%
Late Payment Penalty	29,267	39.5%	626,710	8.6%
Fine Retention	not available		not available	
Total	74,069	100.0%	$ 7,291,285	100.0%

Outstanding Fines – at March 31, 2006

Recipient	Number of Outstanding Fines	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Outstanding Fines	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	537,582	32.9%	$ 76,951,111	51.0%
Alberta Government	118,443	7.2%	37,725,446	25.0%
Victims of Crime Fund	32,095	2.0%	2,048,337	1.4%
Federal Government	3,767	0.2%	5,388,970	3.6%
Late Payment Penalty	556,156	34.0%	15,101,643	10.0%
Fine Retention	388,414	23.7%	13,630,667	9.0%
Total	1,636,457	100.0%	$150,846,174	100.0%

Outstanding Fines – at March 31, 2005

Recipient	Number of Outstanding Fines	Percent of Total Number	Dollar Value of Outstanding Fines	Percent of Total Value
Municipalities	529,592	33.8%	$ 72,989,270	50.7%
Alberta Government	118,410	7.6%	38,039,082	26.4%
Victims of Crime Fund	36,780	2.3%	2,300,667	1.6%
Federal Government	3,444	0.2%	5,579,898	3.9%
Late Payment Penalty	548,976	35.1%	14,143,502	9.8%
Fine Retention	329,055	21.0%	10,979,117	7.6%
Total	1,566,257	100.0%	$144,031,536	100.0%

Fine Collection Cost Estimates

Overview:

Costing methodologies have been developed to estimate the cost of collecting a provincial statute fine and the cost of collecting a federal statute (*Criminal Code* and other) fine. The estimated cost of collecting a provincial statute fine is related to the number of violation tickets received by all provincial court offices in Alberta. The estimated cost of collecting a federal statute fine is related to the approximate number of fine orders in all provincial court offices. The estimated costs are those incurred by Alberta Justice in Court Services, Criminal Justice and Strategic Services programs.

Estimated Cost of Collecting a Provincial Statute Fine – 2005/06 and 2004/05

There were 1,302 million violation tickets received by all provincial court offices in 2005/06 and 1,274 million in 2004/05. The major cost components for Court Services are the Calgary and Edmonton Provincial Traffic Courts, ticket processing costs in the regional provincial courts and the cost of violation ticket printing and direct general and regional overhead expenditures. Criminal Justice costs include paralegal prosecutors and support staff and first appearance centres in Calgary and Edmonton. Strategic Services costs are for the operation and maintenance of the Justice Online Information Network (JOIN) system applicable to violation tickets and for postage and handling of the notice of conviction mail-outs.

The table below summarizes the provincial statute and municipal bylaw fine payments received and the cost for violation tickets received by all provincial courts.

Total Provincial Statute and Municipal Bylaw Payments Received

		2005/06	2004/05
Provincial Acts - Fine and Surcharge		$140,756,881	$129,496,709
Municipal Bylaw		7,923,639	7,822,174
Late Payment Penalty		11,456,451	11,429,575
Total Violation Ticket Payments	A	$160,136,971	$148,748,458
Cost for Violation Tickets Received by All Courts			
Total Estimated Cost	B	$ 21,931,004	$ 20,366,173
Cost per Dollar Collected (B/A)		$ 0.14	$ 0.14

Estimated Cost of Collecting a Federal Statute Fine –2005/06 and 2004/05

There were 27,890 fine orders in all provincial court offices in 2005/06 and 27,576 in 2004/05. The major cost components for Court Services are the salary and benefit costs of court staff and Provincial Court judges with associated supplies and services costs. Criminal Justice costs are primarily the salary and benefit costs of the Crown prosecutors. Strategic Services costs are for the operation and maintenance of the JOIN system applicable to criminal case tracking. Strategic Services also pays for the salary and other operating costs for the Fines Enforcement Unit who collect *Criminal Code* fines on behalf of all courts in the province.

The table below summarizes the federal statute fine payments received and the cost for all fine orders prepared by all provincial court offices.

Total Federal Statute Payments Received

		2005/06	2004/05
Federal Acts - Fine and Surcharge	A	$12,438,056	$ 9,448,939
Cost for Fine Orders by All Courts			
Court Services and Criminal Justice		$16,379,910	$13,346,188
Strategic Services		583,043	661,859
Total Estimated Cost	B	$16,962,953	$14,008,047
Cost per Dollar Collected (B/A)		$ 1.36	$ 1.48

SUPPLEMENTARY MINISTRY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE ESTATES AND TRUSTS

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2006

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AUDITOR GENERAL
Alberta

Auditor's Report

To the Minister of Justice and Attorney General

I have audited the balance sheet of the Office of the Public Trustee, Estates and Trusts as at March 31, 2006, and the statements of changes in net assets, operations – client guaranteed accounts, and operations – other investments for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Office of the Public Trustee. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets held in trust by the Office of the Public Trustee, Estates and Trusts as at March 31, 2006, and the changes in net assets and the results of operations for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Fred J. Dunn FCA
Auditor General

Edmonton, Alberta
July 13, 2006

Office of the Public Trustee
Estates and Trusts
Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2006
($000)

	March 31 2006	March 31 2005
TRUST FUNDS UNDER ADMINISTRATION		
Bank Accounts (Note 8)	$ 9,022	$ 8,599
Client Guaranteed Accounts Investments (Note 3, 6)	358,583	359,010
Accrued Investment Income	7,933	7,061
Other Investments (Note 3, 7)	51,107	47,703
	426,645	422,373
CLIENT ASSETS		
Securites and Investments (Note 9)	43,262	44,315
Real Estate Holdings	15,584	18,554
Personal Property and Other Assets	5,594	5,417
Accounts Receivable	4,341	5,072
	68,781	73,358
TOTAL ASSETS	$ 495,426	$ 495,731
CIENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts, Mortgages and Notes Payable	$ 8,296	$ 7,342
Payable to Related Parties (Note 11)	7,946	7,453
	16,242	14,795
NET ASSETS HELD IN TRUST		
	479,184	480,936
	$ 495,426	$ 495,731

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Office of the Public Trustee
Estates and Trusts
Statement of Changes in Net Assets
For the Year ended March 31, 2006
($000)

	March 31 2006	March 31 2005
SOURCE OF ASSETS		
Pensions, Benefits and Settlements Received	$ 66,848	$ 65,075
Client Assets Acquired During the Year	28,814	28,246
Income Earned on Fund Investments (Note 10)	22,475	23,363
Other Client Funds Received	5,892	5,371
Income from Client Investments	1,904	1,480
TOTAL ASSETS ACQUIRED	125,933	123,535
DISPOSITION OF ASSETS		
Distributions to Beneficiaries	53,091	47,228
Payments for Care and Maintenance of Clients	42,279	41,593
Assets Released to Clients	23,133	14,880
Taxes Paid on Behalf of Clients	2,687	3,147
Administration Fees Paid to the Public Trustee (Note 11)	5,223	9,361
Common Fund Management Fee (Note 11)	619	618
Goods and Services Taxes Paid	372	356
Fund Operating Expenses	251	250
Assurance Payments to, or on Behalf of Clients (Note 5)	30	9
TOTAL DISPOSITIONS OF ASSETS	127,685	117,442
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN ASSETS	(1,752)	6,093
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	480,936	474,843
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	$ 479,184	$ 480,936

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Office of the Public Trustee
Estates and Trusts
Client Guaranteed Accounts
Statement of Operations
For the Year ended March 31, 2006
($000)

	March 31 2006	March 31 2005
REVENUE (Note 10)		
Revenue from investments	$ 19,777	$ 20,717
Interest from deposits	285	193
	20,062	20,910
EXPENSES (Note 2)		
CDIC insurance	22	22
Bank charges	40	40
Investment custody fees	95	78
General expenses	81	94
Management fees (Note 11)	619	618
Goods and Services taxes on management fees	43	43
	900	895
NET INCOME AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION	19,162	20,015
DISTRIBUTION TO BENEFICIARIES DURING THE YEAR	20,350	20,420
OVER DISTRIBUTION FOR THE YEAR	(1,188)	(405)
TRANSFER FROM OTHER INVESTMENTS (Note 5)	1,188	405
NET CHANGE	$ -	$ -

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Office of the Public Trustee
Estates and Trusts
Other Investments Statement of Operations
For the Year ended March 31, 2006

($000)

	March 31 2006	March 31 2005
REVENUE (Note 10)		
Revenue from investments	$ 2,351	$ 2,382
Interest from deposits	62	71
	2,413	2,453
EXPENSES		
Custody and other fees	14	16
Assurance payments to, or on behalf of clients (Note 5)	30	9
	44	25
NET INCOME	2,369	2,428
TRANSFER TO CLIENT GUARANTEED ACCOUNTS (Note 5)	(1,188)	(405)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN OTHER INVESTMENTS	1,181	2,023
BEGINNING BALANCE	50,725	48,702
ENDING BALANCE (Note 2)	$ 51,906	$ 50,725

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

Office of the Public Trustee
Estates and Trusts
Notes to the Financial Statements
March 31, 2006
(Tabular amounts in $000)

Note 1 Authority

The Public Trustee operates under the authority of the *Public Trustee Act,* Chapter P-44.1, SA 2004.

The Public Trustee provides access to social programs administered by Alberta Justice by protecting the financial interests of vulnerable Albertans through the administration of the accounts of dependent adults, decedents and minors.

Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices

These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. Because the precise determination of many assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses is dependent on future events, the preparation of financial statements for a period necessarily includes the use of estimates and approximations, which have been made using careful judgement. In particular, the fair value of many assets is estimated at the time the Office of the Public Trustee assumes the responsibility for the asset. Actual results could differ from those estimates. In management's opinion, these financial statements have been properly prepared within reasonable limits of materiality and within the framework of the accounting principles summarized below.

(a) Reporting Entity

The Minister of Justice is accountable for the Office of the Public Trustee as a part of the Ministry of Justice. These statements reflect the trust assets and related income and expenses, including administration fees charged by the Office of the Public Trustee to administer the trusts. The entire cost of operating the Office of the Public Trustee is paid by the Ministry of Justice and can be found in the financial statements of the Ministry.

(b) Investments

Client Guaranteed and Other investments consist primarily of bonds and are recorded at cost. Investment income is accrued as earned. Purchase price premiums or discounts are amortized on a straight-line basis over the remaining term of the bond.

Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (cont'd)

(c) Securities and Investments

Securities and investments, held for individuals outside Client Guaranteed and Other Investments, consist primarily of bonds, annuities, shares, RRSPs, term deposits, guaranteed investment certificates and other investments. Annuities are recorded at the present value of their guaranteed term. If there is not a guaranteed term, the annuity is recorded at a nominal value of $1 for accountability purposes. The other investments are recorded at their market value at the time the Office of the Public Trustee assumes responsibility for the investment.

Where a market value for an investment is not readily available, the investment is recorded at a nominal value of $1 for accountability purposes. The carrying value of the investment is adjusted to market value if one subsequently becomes available.

(d) Real Estate Holdings

Real estate holdings are recorded at market value at the time the Office of the Public Trustee assumes responsibility for the property.

Where a market value for property is not readily available, for example foreign property, the property is recorded at a nominal value of $1 for accountability purposes. The carrying value of the property will be adjusted to fair market value if one subsequently becomes available.

(e) Personal Property and Other Assets

Personal property and other assets are recorded at their value at the time the Office of the Public Trustee assumes responsibility for the assets.

Where no valuation is available, the asset is recorded at a nominal value of $1 for accountability purposes. The carrying value of the asset will be adjusted to fair market value if one subsequently becomes available.

(f) Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable include pension and other benefits, life insurance policies, mortgages, leases and other miscellaneous receivables.

Pension plans with a guaranteed minimum payment are recorded at net present value. Plans where there is no residual value are recorded at a nominal value of $1 for accountability purposes.

Life insurance policies that carry a cash surrender value are stated at cash surrender value. Policies that do not carry a cash surrender value are recorded at a nominal value of $1 for accountability purposes.

All other receivables are recorded at their face value.

Note 2 Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (cont'd)

(g) Management of Common Fund and the *Public Trustee Act*

Pursuant to section 32(3) of the *Public Trustee Act*, the Public Trustee may transfer an amount from the Common Fund to pay any expense incurred in the operation of the Common Fund, other than salaries or benefits of persons appointed as employees in the Office of the Public Trustee under the *Public Trustee Act* section 2(2). Further, under section 32(5), the amount that is transferred will not be charged to a client or deducted from the client's guaranteed account. Such expenses would include bank charges, management fees, investment and custody fees, which are charged to the income on the Common Fund available for distribution.

(h) Administration Fees

A change in accounting policy was made during the prior year for the recording of fees charged and collected on official guardian accounts. Prior to the 2004-2005 fiscal year, fees were calculated and collected at the end of the administration of the account. As of January 1, 2005 administration fees on all new official guardian accounts will be calculated and collected in the month of the annual anniversary of the file opening. Fees are accrued for the period from the anniversary date to the balance sheet date. For accounts opened prior to January 1, 2005 a one-time calculation of official guardian fees was completed to December 31, 2004 and recorded as a liability. Due to limitations by the system, the impact of the change in accounting policy on the prior years' net assets cannot be reasonably estimated. Therefore the entire adjustment has been recorded in the prior year. These fees will be collected from the client at the end of the Public Trustee's administration.

Administration fees for dependent adult accounts are charged and collected annually on the trust's anniversary date. Fees are accrued for the period from the anniversary date to the balance sheet date. Administration fees on decedent accounts are not charged until the trust or account is distributed. Due to the uncertainty with respect to the ultimate amount that will be charged and the short-term nature of the administration, no provision is made for these fees until the amount becomes known.

In addition to the above stated administration fees the Public Trustee may, in accordance with section 40(1)(a) of the *Public Trustee Act*, charge the client any fee that the Public Trustee deems is reasonable for any service, including legal services, that the Public Trustee provides to the client or for a task or function performed by the Public Trustee for the benefit of the client. Under section 40(1)(b), the Public Trustee is entitled to collect from the client any expense reasonably incurred on the client's behalf. Expenses may include legal fees, appraisals and storage expenses.

(i) Accounts, Mortgages and Loans Payable

Accounts, mortgages and loans payable represent encumbrances of client assets that are payable to independent third parties. These client obligations are settled as client resources become available. In some cases, a client's liabilities exceed the stated value of his/her assets. These items are included as accounts payable and are paid as the resources of the client become available.

Note 3 New Public Trustee Act

Prior to the introduction of the new *Public Trustee Act* on January 1, 2005 two separate funds, the Common Investment Fund and the Special Reserve Fund, operated under the authority of the *Public Trustee Act*. Under the new Act, section 31(1), the two funds were combined into a single fund called the Common Fund. Under section 33(2), if at the time that this Act comes into force, a client is entitled to a share or interest in the Common Fund established under the former Act, the value of the client's interest or share will be credited to a guaranteed account operated within the Common Fund. Under section 33(3) any client money credited to the Common Fund will be credited to the client's guaranteed account. The new Act stipulates in section 33(6) that the amount outstanding on a client's guaranteed account is a charge against the assets of the Common Fund and is unconditionally guaranteed by the Crown. While the former Special Reserve Fund is now part of the Common Investment Fund, it is not part of the client guaranteed accounts and is disclosed as other. Amounts that are not part of the client guaranteed accounts are available under section 35(1) to reimburse clients who suffer a loss as a result of an omission of the Public Trustee (Note 5). The classification of assets between client guaranteed and other is as follows:

	Clients Guaranteed	Other	Total
Bank Accounts	$ 7,760	$ 1,262	$ 9,022
Investments	358,583	51,107	409,690
Accrued Interest	7,208	725	7,933
Plus:			
Outstanding transfer from other investments	1,188	(1,188)	0
Total	$ 374,739	$ 51,906	$ 426,645

Note 4 Financial Instruments

The Office of the Public Trustee, as part of its operations, holds a number of financial instruments in trust. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the accounts and trusts are not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair values of these financial instruments approximate their carrying values unless otherwise noted.

Note 5 Accounts' and Beneficiaries' Trust Accounts

Section 34 of the *Public Trustee Act* states that the Public Trustee, in accordance with regulations, sets the interest rate to be credited to client guaranteed accounts. The interest credited to clients' accounts is the income earned on the Common Fund less operating costs. In the event where the income earned on the Common Fund is less than the interest owing to clients after costs, as per the regulated interest rate, a transfer is done to client guaranteed accounts from the other accounts to make up the difference.

The former Act also allowed for the transfer of funds from the Special Reserve to the Common Investment Fund, to compensate individual clients for any loss caused by an error or omission on the part of the Public Trustee. The new Act covers reimbursement to clients who suffer a loss as a result of an omission of the Public Trustee if the Public Trustee certifies that it is just and equitable to make the payment under section 35(1). Under section 35(2) the amount of the claim may not exceed the amount by which the value of the assets of the Common Fund, as determined in accordance with the regulations, exceeds the total amount outstanding on guaranteed accounts immediately before the payment. These funds are referred to as assurance payments and are reported on the Statement of Operations - Other.

Note 6 Client Guaranteed Accounts

Client guaranteed accounts investments consist of fixed term securities. These investments have the following rates and maturity dates:

	2006	2005
Government of Canada		
0 to 5 years, bearing interest at 3.55% to 10.75% (2005 – 3.55% to 10.5%)	$ 15,986	$14,290
5 to 10 years, bearing interest at 3.75% to 5.5% (2005 - 4.2% to 5.75%)	32,011	26,843
	47,997	41,133
Province of Alberta		
0 to 5 years, bearing interest at 4.5% (2005 - 7.5%)	8,452	3,503
5 to 10 years, bearing interest at 5.85% to 6.9% (2005 - 4.5% to 5.85%)	9,316	15,815
	17,768	19,318
Other Provinces		
0 to 5 years, bearing interest at 5.25% to 7.75% (2005 - 5.25% to 8.25%)	143,365	119,420
5 to 10 years, bearing interest at 4.3% to 7.5% (2005 - 4.75% to 7.5%)	75,740	108,923
Over 10 years, bearing interest at 4.85% to 6.75% (2005 – 5.5% to 6.75%)	22,817	15,574
	241,922	243,917
Municipal		
0 to 5 years, bearing interest at 5.85% to 6.25%	5,089	0
5 to 10 years (2005 - 5.85% to 6.25%)	0	6,138
Over 10 years, bearing interest at 6.1%	1,020	0
	6,109	6,138
Corporations		
0 to 5 years, bearing interest at 6.15% (2005 – 6.15% to 6.5%)	1,254	2,956
5 to 10 years, bearing interest at 3.96% to 6.5% (2005 - 3.96% to 6.9%)	36,607	38,612
Over 10 years bearing interest at 6.3% (2005 - 6.3%)	1,926	1,936
	39,787	43,504
ATB Financial		
0 to 5 years, bearing interest at 5% (2005- 5%)	5,000	5,000
Total	$ 358,583	$ 359,010
Market Value	$ 379,345	$ 385,303

Note 7 Other Investments

Other Investments consist of fixed term securities. These investments have the following interest terms and maturity dates:

	2006	2005
Government of Canada		
0 to 5 years, bearing interest at 3.7% to 4.4% (2005 - 3.7% to 10.5%)	$ 7,324	$ 7,329
5 to 10 years, bearing interest at 4.5% to 5.10% (2005 - 5.10%)	10,307	5,000
	17,631	12,329
Province of Alberta		
5 to 10 years, bearing interest at 6.4%	3,738	3,776
	3,738	3,776
Other Provinces		
0 to 5 years, bearing interest at 4.75% to 6.25% (2005 - 4.9% to 9%)	21,085	24,448
5 to 10 years, bearing interest at 4.30% to 5.25% (2005 - 4.75% to 5.25%)	8,122	6,619
	29,207	31,067
Corporations		
5 to 10 years, bearing interest at 5.75% (2005 - 5.75%)	531	531
Total	$ 51,107	$ 47,703
Market Value	$ 52,280	$ 49,783

Note 8 Bank Accounts

Bank accounts include deposits in the Consolidated Cash Investment Trust Fund (CCITF) of the Province of Alberta. Alberta Finance manages CCITF with the objective of providing competitive interest income to depositors while maintaining maximum security and liquidity of depositors' capital. The portfolio is comprised of high quality short-term and mid-term fixed income securities with a maximum term to maturity of three years. Interest is earned on the daily cash balance at the average rate of CCITF's earnings, which varies depending on prevailing market interest rates. Due to the short-term nature of these deposits, the carrying value approximates fair value.

Note 9 Client Assets - Securities and Investments

Client securities and investments consist of:

	2006	2005
Term and RRSP Deposits	$ 7,298	$ 6,892
Government of Canada Bonds	400	1,346
Provincial Issues	4	105
Shares and Other Securities	35,560	35,974
Total	$ 43,262	$ 44,317

Due to the numerous unique client investments, it is not practical to determine market value or disclose rates of return on these investments.

Note 10 Investment Income

Investment income has been allocated between the client guaranteed accounts and other investments as follows:

	2006	2005
Client Guaranteed Accounts	$ 20,062	$ 20,910
Other Investments	2,413	2,453
Total	$ 22,475	$ 23,363

Note 11 Related Party Transactions

At the end of the year, the amounts due to related parties are as follows:

	2006	2005
Minister of Finance Loan	$ 224	$ 224
Alberta Justice Fees	7,722	7,229
Total	$ 7,946	$ 7,453

The following table summarizes the related party transactions with Alberta Justice for the year:

	2006	2005
Administration Fees	$ 5,223	$ 9,361
Common Fund Management Fees	619	618
Total	$ 5,842	$ 9,979

Note 12 Contingent Liabilities

Section 35(1) of the *Public Trustee Act* provides that payment of claims against the Public Trustee for irrecoverable loss or damages as a result of an act or omission of the Public Trustee in the performance of his duties may be made from Other Investments.

Claims against the Public Trustee, which had not been resolved as at March 31, 2006 amounted to $24,397,000 (2005 - $13,038,000) excluding interest. No provision has been made for these unresolved claims, as the ultimate outcome cannot be predicted.

The Public Trustee may administer claims regarding Children In Care class actions against the Crown. A preliminary estimate of these claims is $890,800,000. The outcome of the unresolved claims cannot be reasonably estimated at this time.

Note 13 Statement of Cash-Flows

A statement of cash flows has not been included in these financial statements as the cash flow information is readily apparent from the other statements included.

Note 14 Comparative Figures

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

Note 15 Approval of Financial Statements

The Deputy Minister of Justice and Attorney General and the Public Trustee approved these financial statements.

Alphabetical List of Entities' Financial Statements in Ministry 2005-06 Annual Reports

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Access to the Future Fund[1]	Advanced Education
Agriculture Financial Services Corporation	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission	Health and Wellness
Alberta Capital Finance Authority	Finance
Alberta Energy and Utilities Board	Energy
Alberta Foundation for the Arts	Community Development
Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission	Gaming
Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research Endowment Fund	Finance
Alberta Heritage Savings Trust Fund	Finance
Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund	Finance
Alberta Heritage Science and Engineering Research Endowment Fund	Finance
Alberta Historical Resources Foundation	Community Development
Alberta Insurance Council	Finance
Alberta Local Authorities Pension Plan Corporation[2]	Finance
Alberta Pensions Administration Corporation	Finance
Alberta Petroleum Marketing Commission	Energy
Alberta Research Council Inc.	Innovation and Science
Alberta Risk Management Fund	Finance
Alberta School Foundation Fund	Education
Alberta Science and Research Authority	Innovation and Science
Alberta Securities Commission	Finance
Alberta Social Housing Corporation	Seniors and Community Supports
Alberta Sport, Recreation, Parks and Wildlife Foundation	Community Development
Alberta Treasury Branches	Finance
ATB Investment Management Inc.	Finance
ATB Investment Services Inc.	Finance
ATB Services Inc.	Finance
Child and Family Services Authorities:	Children's Services
Calgary and Area Child and Family Services Authority	
Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
East Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Edmonton and Area Child and Family Services Authority	
North Central Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Northeast Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Northwest Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Southeast Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Southwest Alberta Child and Family Services Authority	
Metis Settlements Child and Family Services Authority	
Credit Union Deposit Guarantee Corporation	Finance
Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Department of Advanced Education	Advanced Education
Department of Children's Services	Children's Services
Department of Community Development	Community Development
Department of Education	Education
Department of Energy	Energy
Department of Finance	Finance
Department of Gaming	Gaming

[1] Established July 10, 2005

[2] Incorporated December 16, 2005

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Department of Health and Wellness	Health and Wellness
Department of Innovation and Science	Innovation and Science
Department of Seniors and Community Supports	Seniors and Community Supports
Department of Solicitor General and Public Security	Solicitor General and Public Security
Department of Sustainable Resource Development	Sustainable Resource Development
Environmental Protection and Enhancement Fund	Sustainable Resource Development
Gainers Inc.	Finance
Government House Foundation	Community Development
Historic Resources Fund	Community Development
Human Rights, Citizenship and Multiculturalism Education Fund	Community Development
iCORE Inc.	Innovation and Science
Lottery Fund	Gaming
Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development[3]	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
Ministry of Advanced Education	Advanced Education
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	Agriculture, Food and Rural Development
Ministry of Children's Services	Children's Services
Ministry of Community Development	Community Development
Ministry of Economic Development[3]	Economic Development
Ministry of Education	Education
Ministry of Energy	Energy
Ministry of Environment[3]	Environment
Ministry of Executive Council[3]	Executive Council
Ministry of Finance	Finance
Ministry of Gaming	Gaming
Ministry of Government Services[3]	Government Services
Ministry of Health and Wellness	Health and Wellness
Ministry of Human Resources and Employment[3]	Human Resources and Employment
Ministry of Infrastructure and Transportation[3]	Infrastructure and Transportation
Ministry of Innovation and Science	Innovation and Science
Ministry of International and Intergovernmental Relations[3]	International and Intergovernmental Relations
Ministry of Justice[3]	Justice
Ministry of Municipal Affairs[3]	Municipal Affairs
Ministry of Restructuring and Government Efficiency[3]	Restructuring and Government Efficiency
Ministry of Seniors and Community Supports	Seniors and Community Supports
Ministry of Solicitor General and Public Security	Solicitor General and Public Security
Ministry of Sustainable Resource Development	Sustainable Resource Development
N.A. Properties (1994) Ltd.	Finance
Natural Resources Conservation Board	Sustainable Resource Development

[3] Ministry includes only the departments so separate departmental financial statements are not necessary.

ENTITIES INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Ministry, Department, Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Persons with Developmental Disabilities Community Boards:	Seniors and Community Supports
Calgary Region Community Board	
Central Region Community Board	
Edmonton Region Community Board	
Northeast Region Community Board	
Northwest Region Community Board	
South Region Community Board	
Persons with Developmental Disabilities Provincial Board	Seniors and Community Supports
Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers Reserve Fund	Finance
Safety Codes Council	Municipal Affairs
Supplementary Retirement Plan Reserve Fund	Finance
Victims of Crime Fund	Solicitor General and Public Security
Wild Rose Foundation	Community Development

ENTITIES NOT INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Fund or Agency	*Ministry Annual Report*
Alberta Foundation for Health Research	Innovation and Science
Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research	Innovation and Science
Alberta Heritage Foundation for Science and Engineering Research	Innovation and Science
Alberta Teachers' Retirement Fund Board	Education
Improvement Districts' Trust Account	Municipal Affairs
Local Authorities Pension Plan	Finance
Long-Term Disability Income Continuance Plan - Bargaining Unit	Human Resources and Employment
Long-Term Disability Income Continuance Plan - *Management, Opted Out and Excluded*	Human Resources and Employment
Management Employees Pension Plan	Finance
Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers Pension Plan	Finance
Provincial Judges and Masters in Chambers (Unregistered) Pension Plan	Finance
Public Service Management (Closed Membership) Pension Plan	Finance
Public Service Pension Plan	Finance
Special Areas Trust Account	Municipal Affairs
Special Forces Pension Plan	Finance
Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers	Finance
Workers' Compensation Board	Human Resources and Employment

SCHOOL, UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES AND HOSPITALS INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY ON A MODIFIED EQUITY BASIS[4]

School Boards and Schools	*Ministry Annual Report*
Almadina School Society	Education
Aspen View Regional Division No. 19	Education
Aurora School Ltd.	Education
Battle River Regional Division No. 31	Education
Black Gold Regional Division No. 18	Education
Boyle Street Education Centre	Education
Buffalo Trail Public Schools Regional Division No. 28	Education
Calgary Arts Academy Society	Education
Calgary Girls' School Society	Education
Calgary Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 1	Education
Calgary School District No. 19	Education
Calgary Science School Society	Education
Canadian Rockies Regional Division No. 12	Education
CAPE-Centre for Academic and Personal Excellence Institute	Education
Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73	Education
Christ the Redeemer Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 3	Education
Clearview School Division No. 71	Education
East Central Alberta Catholic Separate Schools Regional Division No. 16	Education
East Central Francophone Education Region No. 3	Education
Edmonton Catholic Separate School District No. 7	Education
Edmonton School District No. 7	Education
Elk Island Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 41	Education
Elk Island Public Schools Regional Division No. 14	Education
Evergreen Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 2	Education
Foothills School Division No. 38	Education
Fort McMurray Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 32	Education
Fort McMurray School District No. 2833	Education
Fort Vermilion School Division No. 52	Education
Foundations for the Future Charter Academy Charter School Society	Education
Golden Hills School Division No. 75	Education
Grande Prairie Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 28	Education
Grande Prairie Public School District No. 2357	Education
Grande Yellowhead Regional Division No. 35	Education
Grasslands Regional Division No. 6	Education
Greater North Central Francophone Education Region No. 2	Education
Greater Southern Public Francophone Education Region No. 4	Education
Greater Southern Separate Catholic Francophone Education Region No. 4	Education
Greater St. Albert Catholic Regional Division No. 29	Education

[4] The Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants has issued standards that require controlled entities to be fully consolidated line-by-line. In a transitional period to March 31, 2008, the Ministry is permitted to use the modified equity method of accounting. Under the modified equity method, the controlled entities' net assets and operating results would be included in one line on the Ministry's consolidated statements of financial position and operations, respectively. The Ministry has not yet included the financial statements of these controlled entities. In the transitional period, the government will assess when and how to include these controlled entities in the Ministry's consolidated financial statements. The financial results of these controlled entities are included in the consolidated financial statements of the Province of Alberta for the year ended March 31, 2006 on a modified equity basis.

SCHOOL, UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES AND HOSPITALS INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY ON A MODIFIED EQUITY BASIS[4]

School Boards and Schools	*Ministry Annual Report*
High Prairie School Division No. 48	Education
Holy Family Catholic Regional Division No. 37	Education
Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 4	Education
Horizon School Division No. 67	Education
Lakeland Roman Catholic Separate School District No. 150	Education
Lethbridge School District No. 51	Education
Living Waters Catholic Regional Division No. 42	Education
Livingstone Range School Division No. 68	Education
Medicine Hat Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 20	Education
Medicine Hat School District No. 76	Education
Moberly Hall School Society	Education
Mother Earth's Children's Charter School Society	Education
New Horizons Charter School Society	Education
Northern Gateway Regional Division No. 10	Education
Northern Lights School Division No. 69	Education
Northland School Division No. 61	Education
Northwest Francophone Education Region No. 1	Education
Palliser Regional Division No. 26	Education
Parkland School Division No. 70	Education
Peace River School Division No. 10	Education
Peace Wapiti School Division No. 76	Education
Pembina Hills Regional Division No. 7	Education
Prairie Land Regional Division No. 25	Education
Prairie Rose Regional Division No. 8	Education
Red Deer Catholic Regional Division No. 39	Education
Red Deer School District No. 104	Education
Rocky View School Division No. 41	Education
St. Albert Protestant Separate School District No. 6	Education
St. Paul Education Regional Division No. 1	Education
St. Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 38	Education
Sturgeon School Division No. 24	Education
Suzuki Charter School Society	Education
Westmount Charter School Society	Education
Westwind School Division No. 74	Education
Wetaskiwin Regional Division No. 11	Education
Wild Rose School Division No. 66	Education
Wolf Creek School Division No. 72	Education

Universities	
Athabasca University	Advanced Education
The University of Alberta	Advanced Education
The University of Calgary	Advanced Education
The University of Lethbridge	Advanced Education

[4] The Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants has issued standards that require controlled entities to be fully consolidated line-by-line. In a transitional period to March 31, 2008, the Ministry is permitted to use the modified equity method of accounting. Under the modified equity method, the controlled entities' net assets and operating results would be included in one line on the Ministry's consolidated statements of financial position and operations, respectively. The Ministry has not yet included the financial statements of these controlled entities. In the transitional period, the government will assess when and how to include these controlled entities in the Ministry's consolidated financial statements. The financial results of these controlled entities are included in the consolidated financial statements of the Province of Alberta for the year ended March 31, 2006 on a modified equity basis

SCHOOL, UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES AND HOSPITALS INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY ON A MODIFIED EQUITY BASIS[4]

Colleges

Alberta College of Art and Design	Advanced Education
Bow Valley College	Advanced Education
Grande Prairie Regional College	Advanced Education
Grant MacEwan College	Advanced Education
Keyano College	Advanced Education
Lakeland College	Advanced Education
Lethbridge Community College	Advanced Education
Medicine Hat College	Advanced Education
Mount Royal College	Advanced Education
NorQuest College	Advanced Education
Northern Lakes College	Advanced Education
Olds College	Advanced Education
Portage College	Advanced Education
Red Deer College	Advanced Education

Technical Institutes and The Banff Centre

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology	Advanced Education
Southern Alberta Institute of Technology	Advanced Education
The Banff Centre for Continuing Education	Advanced Education

Regional Health Authorities and Other Health Institutions

Alberta Cancer Board	Health and Wellness
Alberta Mental Health Board	Health and Wellness
Aspen Regional Health Authority	Health and Wellness
Calgary Health Region	Health and Wellness
Capital Health	Health and Wellness
Chinook Regional Health Authority	Health and Wellness
David Thompson Regional Health Authority	Health and Wellness
East Central Health	Health and Wellness
Northern Lights Regional Health Authority	Health and Wellness
Peace Country Health	Health and Wellness
Palliser Health Region	Health and Wellness

[4] The Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants has issued standards that require controlled entities to be fully consolidated line-by-line. In a transitional period to March 31, 2008, the Ministry is permitted to use the modified equity method of accounting. Under the modified equity method, the controlled entities' net assets and operating results would be included in one line on the Ministry's consolidated statements of financial position and operations, respectively. The Ministry has not yet included the financial statements of these controlled entities. In the transitional period, the government will assess when and how to include these controlled entities in the Ministry's consolidated financial statements. The financial results of these controlled entities are included in the consolidated financial statements of the Province of Alberta for the year ended March 31, 2006 on a modified equity basis

By choosing 25% Post Consumer Recycled fiber instead of virgin paper for this project, the following savings to our natural resources were realized;

Trees Saved	1.91
Wood Reduced lbs	1102.35
Water Reduced Gallons	1620.85
Landfill lbs	171.88
Net Greenhouse Emissions lbs	333.42
Energy Btu	2.67

Above information is based on use of the following products:
9000 sheets Chorus Art 23 x 35
600 sheets Chorus Art 19 x 25

Data research provided by Enviromental Defense